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Vivian Deng and Fei Xie are opening up shop on Whyte Ave.
KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Province mulls trying out 'free tuition' model

EDUCATION

Ontario, N.B. provide tuition for low-income families already

 **Helen Pike**
Metro | Calgary

Making tuition affordable for those who can least afford it — that's one of the main priorities going into the Alberta government's tuition review.

Advanced Education Minister Marlin Schmidt said they are looking with some interest at models in Ontario and British Columbia, namely their famous "free tuition" models.

"We don't want any kid with

ambition and good grades to not be able to go to university or college," said Schmidt.

In Ontario, families who make less than \$50,000 a year can send their kids to post-secondary institutions with the "average price of tuition" given to them for free. According to the government, more than 150,000 students in the province are eligible. A similar model was adopted in New Brunswick for families with an annual salary of \$60,000 or less.

Dexter Bruneau, chair of the Council of Alberta University Students, said it's encouraging to see the government consider the model.

"Alberta's a very unique climate," Bruneau said. "I think those systems address a lot of key problems that students face, and for that they're definitely worth taking a look at."



Alberta's a very unique climate.

Dexter Bruneau

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Promoter wants to fill grant gap

MUSIC

Non-profit could provide a safety net for musicians

Sarah Hoyles
For Metro | Edmonton

For many musicians trying to make a living in Edmonton, great songs aren't enough—securing grant money is an essential part of making music.

Enter Craig Martell.

The local underground music promoter has assembled a team of grant writers to help local musicians apply for funding, so they can play to their strengths and focus on the music.

"I want to make bands from Edmonton aware of any resource that's available to them," he said. "I think there's a real lack of that."

Martell said fees paid to the writers will vary, but will gen-



Local music promoter Craig Martell is launching a grant writing service and other music support programs in a new non-profit for local acts to stay in the city. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

erally be about 10 to 12 per cent of a successful grant. Martell won't make a dime.

The service is part of a much bigger plan for Martell. He's got a non-profit in the works, to

be launched later this spring.

Martell hopes to offer networking with writers, designers and publicists, as well as access to alcohol- and drug-free rehearsal and perform-

ance space, instrument drives, alcohol and drug counseling and support, food programs and mentorship.

"Some bands are great at looking out for resources and

others are great at playing music. So the ones that are only good at playing music—they've toured the country, they've released great records and they usually fund all those on their own," said Martell.

"And it would be nice to have everyone on a level playing field. And to have all this grant money available not just accessed by the ones, the elite few, who know how to use the system."

Musician Stefan Opryshko, a member of Edmonton-based band Switches, said the support is badly needed.

"The cost of production and the cost of touring and cost of flying from city to city is really high. So financially it's hard to get by."

Switches hired a Toronto-based grant writer a few years ago. While Opryshko said it resulted in a "huge boost" financially, he said there was a disconnect between the band members in Alberta and the writer half a country away.

The band ended up doing most of the work, he said.

He said a locally based grant writing team could give an informed opinion on what's available here and how to approach it from an Albertan perspective.

"We've found it really hard to know which ones we're actually eligible for and which ones would be worth putting in the effort," said Opryshko. "The actual writing isn't beyond us. It's navigating the world and choosing the right grant that we haven't really been able to get to."

There are some services available through the provincial music association, Music Alberta, but Martell finds that many musicians don't access them.

"I'm just grassroots enough, I'm just outside of the industry enough that I have access to the people who don't trust the industry."

Ultimately, Martell hopes his yet-to-be-named initiative helps keep musicians in the city.

"We want to give them the best chance so they don't move away."

EDUCATION

Two Christian schools ordered to accommodate LGBTQ students

Jeremy Simes
Metro | Edmonton

A third-party adviser has urged Alberta's education minister to close a legal loophole that lets private schools accommodate LGBTQ students differently than public schools do.

Education Minister David Eggen issued a ministerial order Thursday based on adviser Dan Scott's report, telling two Edmonton-area Christian private schools they must allow gay-straight alliances if students ask for one.

Scott's report, made public Thursday, says private schools are currently exempt from the

law to provide a "welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment" for all students.

Scott suggests Eggen change that law so it applies to private schools.

Eggen, who wasn't available for an interview Thursday, said in a statement that the order demands the Independent Bap-

tist Christian Education Society follows the law.

"Students in Alberta have the right to establish a Gay-Straight Alliance or Queer-Straight Alliance and to name it as such—it's the law," Eggen said.

"Students deserve to feel supported in their schools and our government will do everything in our power to ensure that."

The conflict between the government and the Independent Baptist Christian Education Society follows the law.

"Students in Alberta have the right to establish a Gay-Straight Alliance or Queer-Straight Alliance and to name it as such—it's the law," Eggen said.

"Students deserve to feel supported in their schools and our government will do everything in our power to ensure that."

The board's chair, Pastor Brian Coldwell, has said the province

was violating his religious freedom.

"The society further stated by cover letter that GSAs are incompatible with their Christian beliefs," the order read, "and there is no interest in, or need, for GSAs in their schools."

The report noted that no student that attends a society-run school has requested a GSA.

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INDIGENOUS

First Nation installs solar panel project



**David P.
Ball**
Metro | Edmonton

A First Nation about 200 kilometres northeast of Edmonton is shining a bright light on solar energy.

Beaver Lake Cree Nation, near Fort McMurray, has for years raised concerns about what they argue is the harmful effect of Alberta's oil sands industry on residents' health and lands.

And while some environmentalists get criticized for their fossil-intensive lifestyles, the small 1,000-member band wants to "walk the walk," so to speak, and has installed 24,650 Watts of photovoltaic solar panels on its local school.

It's just the first step on the "path to Indigenous energy sovereignty," members of the Treaty 6 band said in a statement about the partnership launched with the environmental group Keepers of the Athabasca.

The idea isn't just to power the community's only school, however. The nation also hopes it can be a learning opportunity for children attending classes underneath the solar array on the rooftop.

"By installing this solar project on our school, the first of

many solar projects we hope to install, we are shining a light of Indigenous resistance for other nations to follow," a statement from the First Nation said, "and a path to reconciliation for all those that claim to believe in it.

"This is another step in a long journey, but together we can build energy systems in line with the ecological limits of the planet and within the life systems of the original caretakers of these lands."

In 2008, the First Nation sued the province and federal government in Alberta's Court of Queen's Bench, over what it alleged was their "failing to ensure that the treaty rights were minimally impaired by the cumulative effects of the developments" of the oil sands. The case has wound its way through the courts since.

A video about the project, posted on Facebook by the Alberta Tar Sands Coalition, had been viewed more than 50,000 times at time of publication.

24,650

The newly-installed solar panels give off 24,650 Watts of energy.



Youth members of Beaver Lake Cree Nation near Fort McMurray, Alta. help install photovoltaic solar panels on the roof of their community's school in this undated video screen capture. CONTRIBUTED/BEAVER LAKE FN



University of Alberta graduate students are suggesting the NDP government reinvest 100 per cent of marijuana tax revenues into addictions and mental health strategies. METRO FILE

Students tell province how to use pot taxes

GOVERNMENT

Advocate: Fund mental health projects using cannabis sales

Some University of Alberta graduate students want the province to roll any tax revenue raised from the legal sale of marijuana into mental-health and addictions programs.

Student Advocates for Public Health say such programs are badly underfunded at a time when substance abuse is costing the province's health-care system about \$1 billion a year.

"We are calling on Alberta's

NDP government to reinvest 100 per cent of cannabis sales tax revenue into Alberta's addiction and mental-health strategy," group spokeswoman Stephanie Wilkes said Thursday.

"We are asking that the revenue be directed to prevention within our youth population and in access to early intervention and treatment programs."

The Trudeau Liberals have said they plan to introduce legislation this spring to legalize and regulate the recreational use of pot, but it is not clear when a bill would be put to a final vote.

The students say data suggests cannabis use by young people in Canada is higher than for other drugs and many start using it as early as late elementary school.

We are asking that the revenue be directed to prevention.
Stephanie Wilkes

The group said almost one out of four youths use marijuana.

Wilkes, 31, noted that the Alberta government has directed the carbon tax to programs that focus on reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

There is no reason why it couldn't directly link money raised from legal pot sales to bolstering addiction and mental-health services, she suggested.

"This is a new opportunity, like the carbon tax, to direct a tax to an underfunded program," said Wilkes, who is studying to become a nurse practitioner.

A federal task force recommended last year that federal and provincial governments use money raised from legal cannabis sales to fund prevention, education and treatment programs.

The student group does not have a position on whether legalizing marijuana is a good idea and has no estimate on how much money Alberta might raise in cannabis taxes.

The province has said it expects to have rules in place by next year to govern the sale of marijuana for recreational use.

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March for equality never ends

RIGHTS

Dozens of local groups adding to what's called a 'human library'



**David P.
Ball**

Metro | Vancouver

Among librarians, women outnumber men four-to-one — according to a top library and information science journal — but male authors still dominate the shelves.

Even Wikipedia editors are less than 13 per cent female, and a Cleveland used bookstore recently went viral after it flipped all its male-authored books to discover women only wrote one-third of their selection.

So it's perhaps fitting that a "human library" is being set up on Saturday in Edmonton to mark two months since an estimated 4.5 million people joined worldwide Women's Marches that followed Donald Trump's inauguration in January.

"We wanted to capture the momentum of it," explained

“We need to focus on what we can do here, in our uniquely Albertan and Canadian ways.”

Paula Kirman

Paula Kirman, co-organizer of Edmonton Women's March, is hosting a follow-up event. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

Paula Kirman, an organizer of the local march, one of roughly 800 cities participating. "We noticed at the Women's March that for a lot of people there, this was their first rally. They'd never been to something like it before."

So she and co-organizer Alison Poste decided to create an

informal online survey of the top issues for Edmonton women, and invite expert organizations to share what they know.

Their survey, Kirman told Metro, found that reproductive rights, labour and pay equality, childcare, and Indigenous women's rights were among the

top issues.

"It's not a march or protest," Kirman emphasized. "It's more like a human library."

"Instead of having speech after speech after speech, people can go talk to representatives of the organizations about whatever issues are on their mind."

Called "Women March Forward: Taking the Next Steps," the afternoon event has already confirmed 11 local organizations, including Alberta Pro-Choice Coalition, Equal Voice, Institute for Sexual Minority Studies, the Institute for the Advancement of Aboriginal Women and the Indo-

Canadian Women's Association, among others.

The only keynote speaker, before participants can freely "browse" the human "library" on Saturday, will be local feminist scholar Janice Williamson.

But even though the original Women's March on Washington coalesced around Trump's inauguration, Kirman hopes to focus on where women here can have an impact.

"Certainly we're concerned about a trickle-up effect from the States," Kirman said, "but we have our own issues here with missing (Indigenous) women, Islamophobia, homophobia, and women being threatened who are politically active in our own country."

"We need to focus on what we can do here, in our uniquely Albertan and Canadian ways, and not necessarily thrust all responsibility for what's happening on the States."

Edmonton's Women March Forward event will be held on Saturday 1 to 5 p.m. at the Boyle Street Community League (9538 103a Ave.). Admission is free but organizers are recommending a \$10 donation, and child care will be offered.

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The Heritage Interpretive Plan will guide how heritage and culture are reflected and communicated throughout the area as it evolves over time. It will honour our collective heritage, including Indigenous and non-Indigenous heritage and culture, and will contribute to the future identity of this special place within Edmonton and the North Saskatchewan River Valley.

Input on the draft plan can also be provided through an online form available at Edmonton.ca/HeritageInterpretivePlan from March 21 to April 5, 2017.

Edmonton.ca/HeritageInterpretivePlan



Police lay charges in LRT operation

CRIME

Drug trafficking investigation turns up 40 suspects

An Edmonton police operation focussing on crime along the LRT has resulted in 135 charges largely related to drug trafficking against 40 people.

In a news release, Edmonton police said "Operation Derailment" — the first of its kind — targeted street-level drug activity around Edmonton's LRT stations.

"EPS and Edmonton Transit Services are committed to ensuring the safety and security of Edmonton's transit ridership, and will continue to suppress drug-related crimes, and the associated violence," said Sgt. Jacob Montgomery of the EPS LRT Beat Team, in a news release.

Edmonton police, along with Alberta Law Enforcement Re-



Operation Derailment targeted street-level drug activity around Edmonton's LRT stations. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

sponse Teams and Edmonton Transit, conducted a number of investigations throughout late 2016 into early 2017 with efforts to suppress street-level drug trafficking.

As a result, police laid 135 criminal charges, the majority of which were drug trafficking and "possession of proceeds of crime charges."

On top of that, 17 criminal

warrants and two bylaw warrants were executed.

Of the 40 people charged, 35 were men and five were women. The average age of the accused was about 28 years old.

A total of 17.93 grams of meth, 1.25 grams of crack cocaine and buprenorphine pills were seized throughout the course of the operation.

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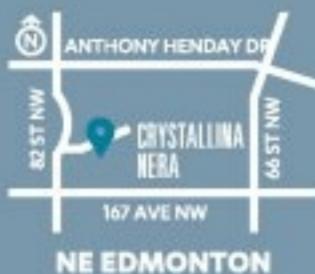
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Nada Selim says the app is designed to be accessible to the community and to offer easy ways to connect with other people. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

App modernizes historic mosque

RELIGION

Program shows updated prayer times, lists special events

 **Pushpa
Balgobin**
For Metro | Edmonton

"This is for the young professional, students, people who are always on the go and always on their phones," Al Rashid Mosque spokesperson Nada Selim said.

Muslims pray five times a day, and those times vary depending on location because they're timed to the cycle of the sun. In addition to prayer times, the app can also play several different versions of the call to prayer, and shows mosque events.

"The app is synced to the mosque, we wanted to create something that was accessible for our community and make it an easy reminder, easy for them to pray," Selim said.

She noted that the short, dark days of winter are challenging for practitioners, she said the app

can help provide that sense of community and connect people even when they're not at the mosque.

The original Al-Rashid mosque, opened in 1938, was the first mosque built in Canada. The current northside location serves over 60,000 Edmontonians.



This is for the young professional, students, people who are always on the go.

Nada Selim

COMMUNITY

Survey gauges desire for ban on morning construction noise

 **Jeremy
Simes**
Metro | Edmonton

She remembers being woken up at "such an unruly hour" when crews were building a duplex next door to her.

"It was aggravating," she said. "I don't tend to sleep in late, but 7 a.m. is way too early to be up on an average Saturday, in my opinion."

Currently, construction crews can work from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. on weekdays and Saturdays. On Sundays and holidays, work can go from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

"Before looking into (changing the construction noise law for Saturdays), we

are seeking citizen feedback to determine if it is an important issue to citizens or not," said city spokesperson Alison Burns in an email, "and will wait for the survey results before determining next steps, if any."

The survey Burns referenced can be accessed online at the Edmonton Insight Community.

The city received 582 construction noise complaints in 2016, but it's not known how many of those were over early Saturday noise. So far this year, Edmontonians complained 26 times about construction noise.

It's not an uncommon sound on Saturdays at 7 a.m. — construction crews out jackhammering, banging things or paving.

Don't like it? The city is testing the waters via public opinion to see if Edmonton should ban 7 a.m. construction noise on Saturday and only allow crews to start work at 9 a.m.

It's a change Sarah Rebryna would support.

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We all should feel the fees

HOUSING

The costs of infill inspections should be in all neighbourhoods

 **Jeremy Simes**
Metro | Edmonton

Developers building homes in older neighbourhoods can expect new inspection fees, but the executive director of an infill advocacy group says the rules should apply to all neighbourhoods.

"If it's good for mature neighbourhoods then I feel like it's good for the other established neighbourhoods," said Mariah Samji, executive director with the Infill Development in Edmonton Association.

Samji's comments come after the city released a report Thursday that shows Edmonton is proposing to charge a \$200 inspection fee for infill development in communities in the "mature neighbourhood overlay,"



If it's good for mature neighbourhoods then I feel like it's good for the other established neighbourhoods.

Mariah Samji

Mariah Samji says inspection fees are OK, but should be applied to all neighbourhoods looking to build. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

which largely encompasses older neighbourhoods.

The change means inspections would occur when resi-

dents are about to move in — Currently, homes inspections occur when there's a complaint, which could be

years after someone moves in.

The city views this change as a cost-saving measure that

could also lower complaints — potential problems with homes could be identified much sooner so more expensive changes don't need to made later.

"If we catch savings early, that's fine," Samji said. "But catch savings earlier throughout the whole system, in all neighbourhoods."

Developers or homeowners also won't be required to landscape their land until 18 months after residents move in, according to the report.

Once complete or when the 18-month threshold is met, city inspectors will verify things like the preservation of mature trees.

Keeping old trees is all about preserving that "heritage feel," according to Westmount Community League president Carla Stolte.

"A lot of residents have said they like the small-town feel of Westmount," she said. "When you start stripping away landscaping, trees and shrubbery that's been here for a while, then it takes away that feel from the neighbourhood."

ENVIRONMENT

10,000 litres of oil spilled

The National Energy Board says about 10,000 litres of light crude oil spilled Monday at a storage site east of Edmonton.

Enbridge said that as of Tuesday morning, it had recovered almost all of the oil, which had leaked from a tank value in an industrial area of Strathcona County.

The company said the oil flowed into a drainage ditch and then into a creek.

The Transportation Safety Board dispatched a team to the spill site, marking the second time one has been sent to investigate a pipeline-related incident this year.

Last month, Enbridge said a third-party strike on its pipeline caused about 961,000 litres of light oil condensate to leak into a construction pit.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

 **AFTERMATH**

The TSB has launched a full investigation into the February spill.



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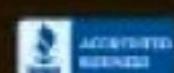
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Truck found at junkyard

CRIME

Police wish for tighter curbs to stop resale of stolen autos

Brodie Thomas
Metro | Calgary

It took four months, but David Lawrence finally got his stolen truck back.

At least, he got most of his truck back.

The Calgary man had his 1990 GMC Sierra stolen from his home in December 2016. He had reported it stolen to Calgary police.

Lawrence happened to be driving past Pick N Pull on 52 Street SE Wednesday when he noticed a familiar tailgate with a green bumper sticker.

"It was pure luck and pure coincidence," said Lawrence. "I still can't believe that I found it."

He said the truck had been recently dropped off at the Pick N Pull, and workers were get-



David Lawrence stands by his recovered 1990 GMC Sierra. He was driving by Pick N Pull on Wednesday when he saw the truck being processed to go in the scrap yard. JENNIFER FRIESEN / FOR METRO

ting ready to move it from the front parking lot to the scrap yard.

He said it appeared to him the company didn't conduct a free VIN search online before buying the truck, because otherwise they would've known it was stolen.

Colin Kelly, a spokesman for Pick N Pull, said the company is working with law enforcement and providing paperwork for the transaction.

"With law enforcement still investigating we will not comment further on the case," he said.

The truck had been well picked over before it arrived at the scrap yard. It was already missing tires, brakes, and the steering column among other things, according to Lawrence.

When Lawrence confronted the auto wrecker workers, he said they denied it was his

truck and told them they had a bill of sale. He blocked them from moving the truck to the scrap yard until CPS members arrived.

"(Police) talked to me and they talked to the staff of Pick N Pull," said Lawrence. "Ten or 15 minutes later (police) said if I could arrange a tow truck, I could take it home right away."

Detective David Bailey with the CPS auto theft resource team said it's not unusual to find stolen cars at junkyards, although it's not the only place they turn up.

He also said checking a VIN number online is not legally required.

He said the investigation into Lawrence's truck is ongoing, but for possession of stolen property, they have to prove that the people in possession of the vehicle knew it was stolen.

Bailey also said the bill of sale requirements in Alberta are not as stringent as in other provinces.

"We in the auto theft resource team would like to see a change where a bill of sale is almost like an affidavit," he said.

STARVATION DEATH Tears cited in appeal

A woman found guilty of murdering her own son has filed an appeal that claims the judge showed bias by crying during the trial.

Emil and Rodica Radita of Calgary were convicted of first-degree murder last month in the death of their 15-year-old son Alexandru.

Justice Karen Horner of Court of Queen's Bench heard the trial without a jury and was told the boy was so neglected, he weighed just 37 pounds when he died in 2013 of complications from untreated diabetes and starvation.

Horner sentenced the parents to life in prison with no chance of parole for 25 years.

"I am not guilty of murdering my son and the judge finding that I am shows that she did not look at all of the evidence," Rodica Radita wrote.

"The judge's crying during my case — closing argument and while reading her decision — demonstrates that she was biased."

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Trump set to give Keystone the OK

ENERGY

'Tooth and nail' battle expected to continue on

The Keystone XL oil pipeline is on the verge of being approved by the U.S. government, a full eight years and six months after Calgary-based TransCanada Corp. applied for a permit that was beset by political drama.

The Trump administration confirmed Thursday that a response is imminent — the decision will be made within the timeline set out by the White House, meaning it must happen by Monday.

In his first week in office, President Donald Trump signed an executive order that invited TransCanada Corp. to reapply for a permit and promised a decision within 60 days. Since then, the president has repeatedly suggested he will accept the application.

The 60-day timeline in Trump's executive order ex-



Keystone Steele City pumping station. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

pires Monday. That deadline will be met, a State Department official confirmed.

"The U.S. Department of State will be in compliance with the deadline laid out in the Jan. 24, 2017, presidential memorandum regarding construction of the Keystone XL pipeline," the official said in an email.

The decision is coming Friday — and it will recommend approval, the Associated Press reported. The AP said senior U.S. officials said the decision

will come from Undersecretary of State Tom Shannon as his boss, former oil executive Rex Tillerson, has recused himself from the decision.

That decision would clear the way for the White House to formally approve it.

The Obama administration had rejected the pipeline after years of delay, after heated debates within the administration, street protests, and court battles tossing up resistance to the project.

The battle is far from over.

The pipeline company still does not have deals with all the landowners in Nebraska on the proposed route, lacks a permit in that state, and protesters promise they will be back to try thwarting the project.

"It still will be fought tooth and nail," said Clayton Thomas-Muller in a statement from anti-pipeline group 350.org.

"Any politician siding with the fossil fuel industry on Keystone, be they named Trudeau or Trump, is in for one hell of a fight." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Cat café craze to hit Edmonton

COFFEE SHOP

The venue will open on March 30 and feature six furry rescues

Sarah Hoyle
For Metro | Edmonton

Construction on Edmonton's first cat café is happening right meow.

Vivian Deng and Fei Xie are opening Cat Café on Whyte Avenue, Edmonton's first permanent opportunity to pet a cat while you sip a latte, next week. The storefront at Whyte and 101 Street launches March 30, with six resident kittens and locally roasted ACE coffee.

The cat café craze emerged in Asia a number of years ago, where patrons can visit a café, enjoy a hot drink and snuggle with in-store felines.

Deng visited the first-ever cat café in Taiwan, and has wanted to open one here since the pair moved to Canada from China 10 years ago.

Xie explains we want "do what people in Taiwan were doing 10-15 years ago. People here in Edmonton love cats and people here love coffee, so why not put coffee and cats together."

The couple has been working since last summer to make their café a reality. They started leasing the space in the Ritchie neighbourhood back in July, but it took until now to get all the renovations and paperwork in order.

"We had to put time, effort and investment in for nine months already," Xie said. "The city has never had this kind of thing before, whenever it's the first time they want to get more details."

Luckily for the pair, their landlord gave them a break



Vivian Deng and Fei Xie are opening Cat Café on Whyte on March 30. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

DETAILS

The entry fee will be \$15, which includes one drink. Edmontonians will be able to enjoy hour-long visits from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and potentially even later on weekends.

on rent to help support the innovative business.

When the café opens in a week's time, there will be a handful of kittens from local rescues and a few from breeders.

Deng and Xie felt it was important to start the animals in the space when they're young. "They will grow up here and build up relationships with customers," said Deng. "It will help the cats to bond with each other and love this place."

The 1,400 square foot space has two distinct areas. The café — where a barista will be pulling shots — will be a strictly animal-free area, for health and safe reasons.

The remaining space is the cat lounge complete with a large window and furniture for the cats and customers to relax in.

Behind the scenes, there is also a 500 square foot apartment in the back of the building.

"The cat room isn't where the cats live, we have an apartment which is connected," Deng said, adding that the private space will allow the animals a place to retreat if they want a break from the public.

It will also allow a staff member to stay overnight to keep the cats company 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Xie says the cat room is "the cats' playground to connect with people, while the apartment is their home."



The actual coffee shop will be animal-free, as per health and safety regulations. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

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POLITICS

Motion to condemn Islamophobia passed

The House of Commons has passed a Liberal backbencher's motion calling on federal politicians to condemn Islamophobia.

The motion, known as M-103, became a matter of acrimonious debate, with opponents painting it as a slippery slope towards limiting freedom of speech and even bringing in Sharia law.

Liberals and Conservatives accused one another of playing politics with the rising tide of prejudice and hate crimes facing Canadian Muslims.

MPs adopted the motion by a margin of 201-91.

Liberal MP Iqra Khalid, who sponsored the motion, was applauded loudly by her Liberal fellows as she stood to vote.

The issue even became a bone of contention among Conserva-

tive leadership hopefuls.

Candidate Michael Chong voted in favour, while rivals Andrew Scheer, Steven Blaney, Brad Trost, Kellie Leitch, Erin O'Toole and Maxime Bernier voted against.

The motion called on the Commons to condemn Islamophobia and "all forms of systemic racism and religious discrimination." It asked that a Commons committee study how the government can eliminate the problem and collect data on hate crimes.

Last month, the Conservatives proposed their own alternative motion, which was virtually identical except it dropped the word Islamophobia. The Liberals defeated it, contending that it was aimed at watering down Khalid's motion.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

QUEBEC

Homicide triggers probe of police role

Quebec man has been charged with first-degree murder in the slaying of his ex-girlfriend as a police watchdog agency probes the actions of local police in the case.

Anthony Pratte-Lops was arraigned in St-Hyacinthe on Thursday in the death of 18-year-old Daphne Huard-Boudreault and will remain behind bars until the case returns to court April 19.

Huard-Boudreault died in hospital on Wednesday after she was attacked in a home the couple had shared in Mont-St-Hilaire, about 45 kilometres southeast of Montreal.

Pratte-Lops was arrested at

the scene. On Thursday, a judge ordered him to not contact the victim's parents.

Huard-Boudreault's work colleagues at a convenience store in nearby Otterburn Park told various media the young woman feared her ex-boyfriend and they said local police weren't much help to her. They allege police said they were powerless to act.

Two separate investigations have been launched — a provincial police probe into the slaying and another by Quebec's bureau for independent investigations into police operations.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Fire fighters and Ontario Fire Marshall officials attend the scene of a house fire on Oneida Nation of the Thames, southwest of London, Ont. on Dec. 15, 2016 THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

No new spending for on-reserve fire safety

INDIGENOUS ISSUES

Federal budget includes no mention of fire protection

Despite "unprecedented" spending for Indigenous issues, the new federal budget doesn't promise a penny more for fire prevention in First Nations communities.

The words "fire protection," "fire prevention," and "fire services" do not appear once in the 90,000-word document, which does include \$3.4 billion in new

spending for Indigenous people in Canada, on top of the \$8.4 billion announced last year.

"There really hasn't been that much dollars allocated to Indigenous peoples, basically ever," Assembly of First Nations National Chief Perry Bellegarde told reporters in Ottawa on Thursday. "It is in that sense unprecedented, no question."

"Our challenge now is to make sure that these resources get out to the communities to have a real, substantive impact on the ground," Bellegarde said.

There is new money for Indigenous health, languages, off-reserve housing and more. On-

reserve infrastructure however, which includes fire protection services, will see no new money from Budget 2017 despite the government's own figures showing a \$1.7 billion need.

Earlier this winter Torstar News Service investigation revealed that at least 173 people have died in house fires on First Nations reserves since the federal government stopped keeping track of the data in 2010.

Many of the houses that burn to the ground with people inside them do not meet basic building or fire codes. Overcrowding and inadequate construction means people are often sleeping in very

dangerous situations, said Ontario Regional Chief Isadore Day.

On the heels of Torstar's investigation, Indigenous affairs minister Carolyn Bennett committed to implementing two long-standing recommendations that could help save lives: creating a national Indigenous fire marshal's office and tracking fire-related data again.

There is, however, a third recommendation that has been repeatedly sought by the Aboriginal Firefighters Association of Canada — the creation of national legislation enforcing basic fire and building codes on reserves.

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NEXT WEEK

'We are not afraid': May

TERROR ATTACK

Britain's PM encourages return to normality

Authorities on Thursday identified a 52-year-old Briton as the man who mowed down pedestrians and stabbed a policeman to death outside Parliament, saying he had a long criminal record and once was investigated for extremism — but was not currently on a terrorism watch list.

As lawmakers returned to work a day after the rampage killed five people and injured at least 30, British Prime Minister Theresa May vowed: "We are not afraid."

"Today we meet as normal — as generations have done before us, and as future generations will continue to do," she said to cheers in the House of Commons.

Daesh claimed responsibility for Wednesday's attack, which police said was carried out by Khalid Masood, a U.K.-born resident of the West Midlands in central England.

Masood plowed a rented SUV



People at a vigil at Trafalgar Square in London on Thursday. GETTY IMAGES

into pedestrians on London's Westminster Bridge, killing an American man and a British woman and injuring more than 30 people.

A 75-year-old victim on the bridge died late Thursday of his wounds, police said. He fatally stabbed a police officer inside the gates of Parliament.

Some of the victims were identified as Kurt Cochran, 54, of Utah and British school administrator Aysha Frade, 43 and 48-year-old Constable Keith

Palmer, a 15-year veteran of the Metropolitan Police.

Police arrested eight people on suspicion of preparing terrorist acts as authorities sought Masood's motive and possible support network.

One arrest was in London, while the others were in the West Midlands city of Birmingham. Police said they were searching properties in Birmingham, London and Wales.

As police investigated, Parliament got back to business,

opening the day with a minute's silence for the victims.

May set the tone in the House of Commons, saluting the heroism of police and the ordinary actions of everyone who went about their lives in the aftermath.

"It is in these actions — millions of acts of normality — that we find the best response to terrorism. A response that denies our enemies their victory, that refuses to let them win."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A look at victims of attack near London's Parliament

The five people killed and at least 30 injured in the attack in Westminster were a cosmopolitan snapshot of one of the world's most cosmopolitan cities.

The dead included a British policeman, stabbed repeatedly, an American tourist who was celebrating his 25th wedding anniversary and a school administrator adored in the Spanish town where she spent summer vacations with her family.

Here's what's known about the victims:

Police Officer Keith Palmer, 48, was on duty protecting Parliament Wednesday when he was stabbed to death.



Keith Palmer

He had been a member of the parliamentary and diplomatic protection forces for 15 years, and a soldier in the Royal Artillery before that.

Honouring Palmer, Prime Minister Theresa May said he was "a husband, a father ... he was every inch a hero."

Aysha Frade, a British national whose mother is Spanish, was one of two people killed on the bridge.

In the northwestern Spanish

town of Betanzos, where her mother was born and her two sisters run an English-language school, the mayor said: "The whole town is shocked."

Although Frade, 43, was born and lived in London, she spent weeks every summer in Betanzos visiting relatives, said Ramon Garcia Vazquez, mayor of the town of 13,000 people in Spain's Galicia region.

Kurt W. Cochran, from the United States, was on the last day of a trip celebrating his 25th wedding anniversary when he was killed, according to the Mormon church his parents-in-law work for.



Kurt Cochran

His wife, Melissa, was seriously injured. She remains hospitalized.

In a tweet, U.S. President Donald Trump called Cochran "a great American" and said: "My prayers and condolences are with his family and friends." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANTWERP, BELGIUM

Officials tighten security after car ploughs through shopping area

Belgian authorities tightened security Thursday in the port city of Antwerp after a Frenchman drove his car at high speed through a busy shopping area, forcing pedestrians to jump out of the way.

French President Francois Hollande compared the incident to the attack in London that left five

people dead Wednesday, saying the Frenchman was "trying to kill people or create a dramatic event."

The federal prosecutor's office said the car was intercepted late Thursday morning at the port docks and police arrested a man, identified as 39-year-old Mohamed R., who has been liv-

ing in France.

In the car, authorities found knives, a shotgun and a gas can with an unknown liquid. There were no immediate reports of injuries.

An official at the prosecutor's office, who asked not to be identified because the investigation was still ongoing, said the suspect

"was under the influence" but refused to elaborate whether it was drugs or alcohol.

Authorities immediately raised security in the centre of Antwerp.

At first sight, the incident appeared to have the hallmarks of several extremist attacks in Europe — a vehicle in a busy area bent on mowing down ped-

estrians. Trucks were used last year in deadly attacks in Nice and Berlin, and an SUV was used Wednesday in London.

The office said "because of these elements, and the events in London yesterday, the case is being taken on by the federal prosecutor's office," which usually deals with extremist attacks.

Prime Minister Charles Michel said "we remain vigilant. Our security services have done excellent work." He also expressed sincere condolences to British Prime Minister Theresa May, saying the two nations are "working in close co-operation with our security and intelligence services."

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South Sudan accused of ignoring famine

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres accused South Sudan's government on Thursday of refusing to express "any meaningful concern" about the plight of 100,000 people suffering from famine, 7.5 million in need of humanitarian aid and thousands more fleeing fighting.

The UN chief delivered a sharp rebuke to the country's president, Salva Kiir, saying that most often the international community hears denials — "a refusal by the leadership to even acknowledge the crisis or to fulfil its responsibilities to end it."

There were high hopes that South Sudan would have peace and stability after its independence from neighbouring Sudan in 2011. But the

country plunged into ethnic violence in December 2013 when forces loyal to Kiir, a Dinka, started battling those loyal to Riek Machar, his former vice-president who is a Nuer. A peace deal signed in August 2015 has not stopped the fighting and the three-year civil war has devastated the country, killed tens of thousands, and contributed to a famine in two counties.

The United Nations has a 12,000-strong peacekeeping mission in South Sudan and the Security Council last year approved an additional 4,000 peacekeepers from the region to help protect civilians after a series of reported gang-rapes and other assaults.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SOMALIA CRISIS

Leader pleads for global help to avert starvation

Somalia's president said Thursday that almost half his country's people are facing acute food shortages and about 15 per cent are facing famine, and he urged the world to help.

Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed told the UN Security Council that

Somalis are proud and resilient and would be the last to ask for help, but drought has spawned a humanitarian crisis that could threaten recent political and security gains.

The UN said Wednesday that the \$864 million UN humanitarian appeal for Somalia is only 31 per cent funded. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Thousands of people fleeing the parched countryside arrive daily at a makeshift camp on the outskirts of Baidoa in southwestern Somalia. GETTY IMAGES

Africa has worst hunger crisis in 70 years, UN says

FAMINE

Trump's plan to cut aid will up suffering: Spokesman

Africa faces the world's largest humanitarian crisis since 1945, with more than 20 million people facing starvation, and any cut in funding to humanitarian agencies working in famine-affected areas will cause untold suffering, a spokesman for the World Food Program said in Johannesburg Thursday, responding to questions about U.S. President Donald Trump's proposal to cut \$10 billion in foreign aid.

"Any cuts at this time are extremely significant, not just for us but for any UN agencies and any aid organization," said David Orr, WFP's Africa spokesman, at a media briefing in Johannesburg. "With the magnitude of needs at the moment it is vital that we continue with a high level of assistance."

The current hunger crisis is in three African countries, South Sudan, Somalia and Nigeria, as well as nearby Yemen.

The U.S. is WFP's largest donor and was one of the organization's founders. Last year it contributed more than \$2 billion, representing about 24 per cent of WFP's total budget, Orr said.

UN operations in South

Sudan, Somalia, Yemen and Nigeria will require more than \$5.6 billion this year, he said. At least \$4.4 billion is needed by the end of March to avert a catastrophe, he said, but so far the U.S. has only received \$90 million.

"The more dramatic cuts in any aid budgets, the more suffering there is going to be."

David Orr

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HOW DID THIS CHICKEN GET SO BIG?

Despite what you may have read on the Internet, gigantic chickens are nothing to be afraid of. The chicken in that viral video from Kosovo belongs to a very large breed called the Brahma. How did it get that big? The usual way: selective breeding. Here's how it works.

HISTORY

Brahmas are believed to have been bred from Cochins, a preposterously fluffy, massive breed from South Asia. A craze for Brahma and other giant chickens swept the western world in the mid-1800s, according to poultry historian Andrew Lawler.

DIVERSITY

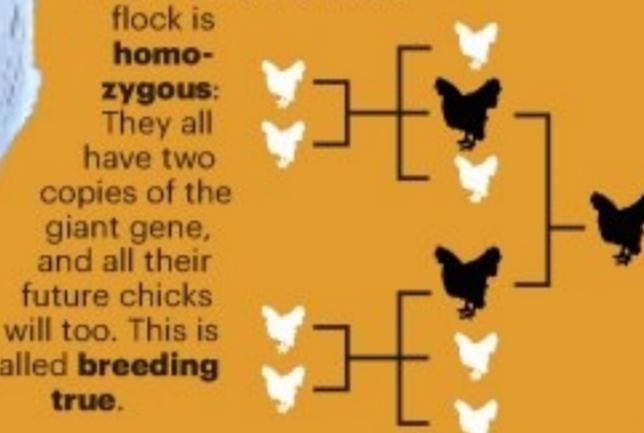
The wild relatives of modern chickens, **red junglefowl**, gifted today's pluckers with incredible genetic diversity. Chickens come in an astounding variety of shapes, sizes and colours. All those differences result from variations in DNA between chicken breeds and individual chickens. A 2004 study found chickens have six to seven times more genetic diversity than humans do.



ARTIFICIAL SELECTION

Like humans, chickens have two copies of all their genes, one from each parent. Say there's a single gene that causes giant-ness in chickens. Possibly, some giants may have just one copy of the gene, while others have two. If farmers breed giant chickens only with other giants over many generations, eventually all chicks will reliably be giant.

That means the whole flock is **homozygous**:



They all have two copies of the giant gene, and all their future chicks will too. This is called **breeding true**.

NATURAL SELECTION

Sometimes a particular genetic trait will help a species survive and reproduce better. That trait will tend to become more common over time. That's **natural selection**. But for centuries, humans have interfered with this process, breeding chickens for traits they want to see. That's **artificial selection**.

FINDINGS
Your week in science



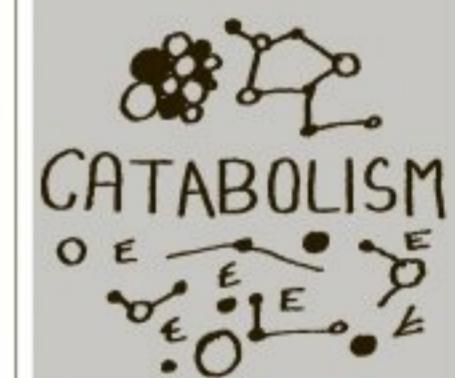
DINOSAUR DUST-UP

Since the 1800s, we've divided dinosaurs into two groups. The T. Rex and brontosaurus were in one, and triceratops, duckbills and stegosaurs in another. But a new study of fossils from 75 species says we should scrap that system. In the new family tree, the T. Rex is more closely related to the duckbill and the brontosaurus is a distant cousin.

HEART HEALTHY SALAD

An American team has turned spinach leaves into something that looks and works a lot like real, beating heart tissue. They replaced plant cells with heart cells, relying on the leaf's "veins" for structure.

SOUND SMART

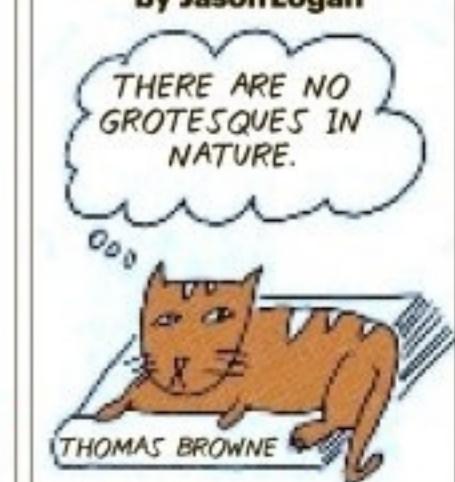


DEFINITION
Catabolism is the process of breaking down complex, large molecules into smaller ones, usually releasing energy at the same time. Turning food into energy is a process of **catabolism**.

USE IT IN A SENTENCE

Deborah is hopping up and down because she just got a burst of energy from the fast **catabolism** of all the sugar she ate.

PHILOSOPHER CAT by Jason Logan



CITIZEN SCIENTIST by Genna Buck

The biological computers of the future



Will we really soon have computers made of DNA?

Teams all over the world are working on quantum computers. Through the magic of quantum physics, one day these babies may be able to routinely handle files the size of 40,000 videos and run fast enough to break all the encryption methods that currently exist. (Encryption is just a fancy way of saying "giving a computer a number so big that it gets

stumped.")

If quantum computers come together the way scientists at Google and the Canadian Institute for Quantum Computing are hoping, we're going to need some better technology for information storage.

There aren't enough hard disks in the world for all that data.

Enter the storage molecule of the future: DNA. If you were to uncoil all the DNA in all the cells in your body, it would

reach past the edge of our solar system. All that is small enough to fit inside you!

DNA contains information: A sequence of acids represented by the letters A, C, T and G. Scientists have already managed translating DNA sequences into binary code, the basic language all our computers speak.

DNA persists for thousands of years, meaning our data could be kept secure and accessible in perpetuity, unlike that box of floppy disks in your

basement.

It's a moonshot. We're nowhere near figuring out how to write information onto DNA and read it back out in an accurate, reliable and speedy manner. But I have confidence we'll get there.

It's like landing humans on Mars. I have faith that (crazy!) day will come, too. The hopeful march forward is what science is all about.

Science Question?
genna.buck@metronews.ca



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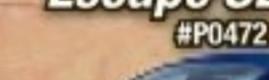


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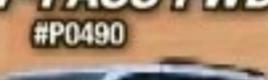


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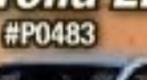


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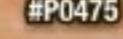


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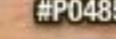


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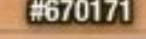


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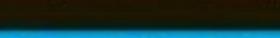
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Morphin back to '90s nostalgia

IN FOCUS

Power Rangers is a throwback, but is it a lazy retread?

Richard Crouse

For Metro Canada



What do Point Break, Independence Day and Beauty and the Beast have in common? All are movies released in the 1990s and all have been remade, re-imagined or rebooted in recent years.

Brand-happy Hollywood is in overdrive repurposing Saturday morning superhero cartoons, big screen hits and other touchstones of '90s pop culture and audiences have mostly lapped up the nostalgia from the Clinton years.

Independence Day: Resurgence and Point Break tanked but Beauty and the Beast, to use a 90s term, was all that and a bag of chips — box-office wise.

This weekend it's morphin' time once again as the Power Rangers are resurrected for the big screen.

Featuring familiar characters but an all new cast, Power Rangers sees the helmeted heroes rescue the world from a powerful witch, an army of stone golems called Putties and Goldar, a giant golden monster born on

Titan, one of Saturn's moons.

It's a blast from the past designed to draw in new fans while appealing to grown ups who came of age in the 1990s but is it possible to feel nostalgia for four actors in plastic helmets?

The dictionary tells us nostalgia is "a sentimental longing or wistful affection for the past, typically for a period or place with happy personal associations."

Science tells us more.

As a recent study showed when we get bad news or are feeling down, nostalgic, misty memories of a simpler time almost automatically kick in.

Call it protection.

Call it wistfulness.

Call it whatever you like; Hollywood calls it money and exploits it ruthlessly because movies are a natural nostalgic go-to.

They are the stuff from which dreams are woven and the feelings associated with them can give us comfort when the going gets rough.

We now live in unsettled times, so perhaps the neo Power Rangers will bring back recollec-

tions of carefree Saturday mornings spent watching the TV show. Or a long ago Halloween costume inspired by Amy Jo Johnson (the popular Pink Ranger) but at the rate Hollywood is recycling ideas we'll soon run out of things to get nostalgic about. Can you be nostalgic for nostalgia?

As I see it, nostalgia is bad for the movies. It encourages lazy retreads and reimaginings, not innovation and originality. If we demand new films to make memories with, to fall in love with, then Hollywood's raiding of pop culture brands must stop. Romanian-American poet and novelist Andrei Codrescu says that in the grand collage that is art, the "past and future are equally usable." I'm just wishing Hollywood would look to the future more often.

To a degree, all art is a combination of everything that came before. But interesting, original films like Moonlight, Manchester by the Sea and Get Out give me hope that some filmmakers have their eyes facing forward and aren't simply wallowing in nostalgia.



Elizabeth Banks plays powerful sorceress Rita Repulsa in the new Power Rangers. CONTRIBUTED



MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Life	★★★
Power Rangers	★★
Personal Shopper	★★★
Wilson	★★
The Second Time Around	★★

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★★★ SEE IT
★★★ WORTHWHILE
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PERSONAL SHOPPER

French director praises Kristen Stewart in their second film

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

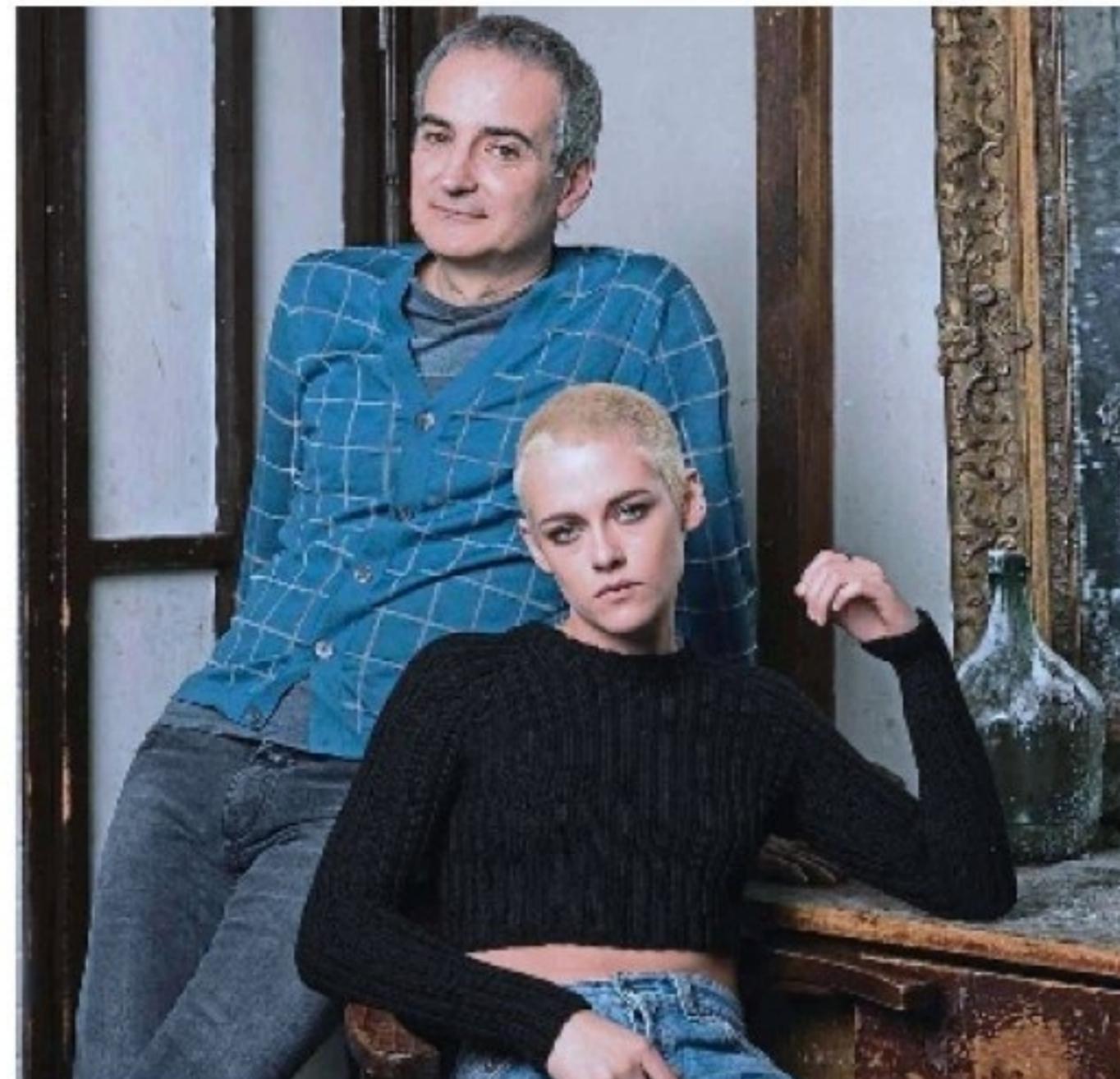
Ghostbusting is supposed to make you feel good. If that's true, why does Personal Shopper's Maureen (played by Kristen Stewart) appear so miserable all the time? Perhaps it's because the spirit she is trying to bust is that of her brother Lewis, a twin who died of a heart attack in a rambling, old Paris house.

In her second film with French director Olivier Assayas, the Twilight star gives a career topping performance, brittle yet calm in the face of mounting terror.

There is a detached feel to the performance that recalls the remove Hitchcock's leading ladies often projected as she navigates through personal tragedy and supernatural mystery.

"Kristen is the great actress of her generation," says Assayas. "I feel very privileged to have this connection with her. It is miraculous to work with a young actress who realizes there is no end to what she can do. You tell her, 'You can fly,' and she doesn't believe it and then she does it."

"I have always loved to work with young actors and actresses. You catch them at a moment when they are transforming and opening up. I think it is always interesting to work with actors when you can give them something. When you work with great actors who have done it all, it is very difficult because you give them something that they have already done better in another



Olivier Assayas, known for his cerebral films that teeter between fiction and reality, says Kristen Stewart has great instincts. AP

movie ten years before."

Their previous collaboration, *Clouds of Sils Maria*, earned Stewart a rare honour. She was the first American actress to be nominated for and win a best supporting actress César award, the French equivalent of an Oscar.

"She is obsessed with breaking anything that could feel like routine," he says.

"She gives herself this rule of not doing what she would instinctively do. When you do a

scene there is an obvious starting place. She never takes it. That's what I love. As a writer I don't want to see what I imagined, I want to see an actor who takes it, who appropriates it and does something else with it. That's when it becomes real and human."

"Usually I work with actors once, twice and after a while I realize we've gone all the way. With Kristen I think I could go on and on."

Personal Shopper is a ghost story, so things take a strange turn when Maureen's phone lights up with mysterious texts while she's on a quick Chunnel trip to London. "R U real? R U alive or dead?" she writes, replying to the unknown texter. "Tell me something you find

unsettling," comes the response, opening the door for Maureen to begin exploring her fears, phobias, digging deeper than she ever has.

"I don't believe in the supernatural but I believe there is more to life than the material world. Science kind of proves it. There is so much going on that we can't see because it is too small or too big or whatever. We have our own relationship with some invisible world. Each of us has his own version of it. You end up living with the departed."

"Each of us has an inner world which is much more complex than the material world. It's much more fascinating in terms of cinema. I don't think it is bizarre to try and connect with that."



Usually I work with actors once, twice and after a while I realize we've gone all the way. With Kristen I think I could go on and on.

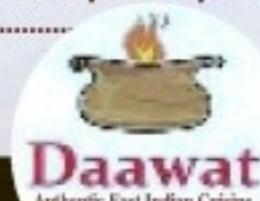
Olivier Assayas, director



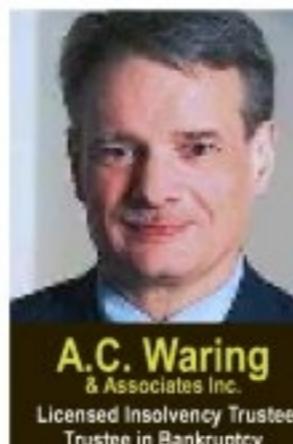
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INTERVIEW

Real life haunts Kristen Stewart

In the disheveled backroom of an East Village restaurant, Kristen Stewart is sarcastically motivating the French director Olivier Assayas for a photo shoot.

"You're in America now, dude," Stewart jokes. "We've got to sell the s— out of this movie."

Stewart, a blockbuster veteran at 26, is well acquainted with the demands of movie promotion. But with Assayas, she has found a freedom from such concerns. She and the director have forged an unlikely but formidable bond that has resulted in two highly acclaimed movies, both made in Europe, far outside of Hollywood jurisdiction.

They're an odd pair: She, a rebel A-lister from Los Angeles who has become one of the movie's most exciting and uncompromising actors; he, a demure Parisian whose layered, cerebral films teeter between reality and fiction.

What makes them click? she chuckles.

"That's the main question," she says. "I don't know. We like each other."

Their latest film, *Personal Shopper*, is full of mysteries, too. It's a ghost story, set in a contemporary world of texting and Googling. In the film, which opens Friday, Stewart plays a twin whose brother has just died. Her day job is shopping in Paris for a stuck-up celebrity, but she's also a medium, and a series of strange encounters make her believe a spirit (her brother?) is contacting her.

There were plenty of moments while making *Personal Shopper* where Stewart's fame invaded. Shooting on the streets of Paris (Stewart drives a moped through the city in the film), they were surrounded by paparazzi.

But Stewart says she channeled the intrusions into her haunted character. "I thought I was being taken from, and it was good," she says. "It made me more sensitive. My nerves were very close to the surface."

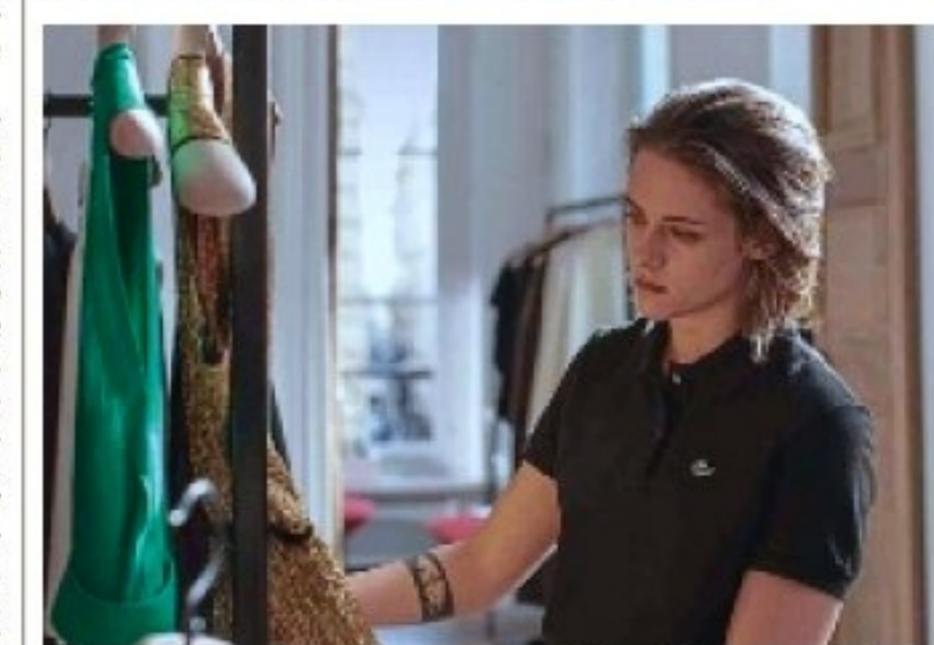
The former *Twilight* actress, with freshly buzzed blonde hair, has deservedly made a reputation for herself as an unusually forthright and frank star. She has taken part after part, usually in smaller, indie productions, with an insatiable urge to work, to keep exploring. Stewart also debuted a short film she directed at Sundance this year.

In a memorable Saturday Night Live monologue earlier this year, she reflected on when Donald Trump in 2012 repeatedly tweeted that her then-boyfriend Robert Pattinson should "dump" her. "It was inconceivable, actually," Stewart says. "At the time, I regarded him as like a reality-show star. I was like: Who is this guy?"

She also, in a rebuke to Trump and an inspiration to others, announced, "And I'm like so gay, dude."

"I've really allowed myself to really freely and with no regard to the effect of others live my life," says Stewart.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Kristen Stewart delivers second acclaimed film, *Personal Shopper*, with French director Olivier Assayas. CONTRIBUTED

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Rangers power up on diversity, depth



RJ Cyler (Billy), Naomi Scott (Kimberly), Ludi Lin (Zack), Dacre Montgomery (Jason), and Becky G (Trini), star in the new Power Rangers movie. CONTRIBUTED

ACTION MOVIES

Latest reboot combines big spectacle with cerebral drama

Steve Gow
For Metro Canada



To paraphrase Mark Twain, there's no such thing as a new idea. Instead, as the great American humorist insisted, we only twist old ideas into curious new combinations.

Of all things, that's just what has happened to Power Rangers.

In the 1990s, the Japanese-influenced live-action series about a quintet of teens who achieve the ability to morph into superheroes not only captivated young minds, it grew into a global marketing phenomenon and the most-watched children's program on American television.

"I'm excited to see how people receive the film," ad-

mitted Australian actor Dacre Montgomery, who plays the team-leading Red Ranger in the reboot. "I think it is a good representation of where we're at in the world at the moment and it's good that it has an opportunity to come back to life."

For those who recall, there wasn't anything fancy about the original series — just a bunch of costumed martial-arts stuntmen groaning and dueling with goofy rubber monsters on cheap-looking sets. In the age of the big-screen blockbuster however, Power Rangers is ready for an impressive effects makeover on par with Marvel hits like The Avengers and Guardians of the Galaxy.

"This film draws a fine line between those other movies," explained Montgomery. "Those visceral, intelligent, complex movies that are so beautiful to watch and the big superhero spectacles — and hopefully combines them in such an effective way that we can engage (fans) on an even deeper level than other superhero franchises."

Another way the reboot attempts to carve itself a piece of the comic-book movie market is through inclusivity. Whereas the old show was a campy mess of non-stop action, producers aimed to ensure the new squad resonated with today's teens by providing depth and proving how our differences can maximize our full potential when fully united.

"All of the Marvel and DC worlds — they're not as diverse as this cast is," added Montgomery.

"We are legitimately from different corners of the planet, each of the cast members, and although we don this American accent, we all bring different cultural elements of our backgrounds of upbringing to those roles which makes it an even more diverse and interesting dynamic."

Power Rangers isn't the only phenomenon Montgomery has been fortunate to find himself in during his short career. Following production, the 22-year-old was cast in last year's most buzzed-about show — Stranger Things.

"I feel like a bit of a nerdy fan on-set every single day," said Montgomery, currently filming as the antagonist in the second season.

"Enjoying that world has been a lot of fun and exactly what I was seeking in contrast to Power Rangers."

I think (the movie) is a good representation of where we're at in the world at the moment and it's good that it has an opportunity to come back to life.

Dacre Montgomery, actor

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Ford's sweet side missing

PREMIERE

Savagery in film Filth City outweighs the true story

Kevin Donovan
scene@metronews.ca

Actor Pat Thornton does what the Toronto Police could never do. He nails Rob Ford, providing a chaotic and quite perfect impersonation of the late mayor of Toronto.

Four years ago, sitting in the back of a darkened car watching the crack video on an iPhone with colleague Robyn Doolittle, I felt like we were in a cheap crime drama.

Late-night phone calls. Coffe. Drive to a prescribed location. Wait. Small talk. Wait. Get into car with strange man. Get driven to a parking lot. Convince a drug-and-gun dealer to show video of Toronto's top politician smoking a rock of crack.

The Rob-Ford-on-crack video we saw that night is the one Thornton has brought to the screen as Mayor Tom Hogg in the movie *Filth City*. Out of his mind on drugs for most of the film, wheezing, screaming, lecherous, crude and yet quite messianic in his desire to save taxpayers money.

Our Ford had the slogan, "Stop the gravy train." This Hogg goes a bit further, vowing to take all of the social programs, the subsidized housing



Actor Pat Thornton, above, plays Tom Hogg while Siobhan Murphy, right, plays Miriam Keen in *Filth City*. HANDBOUTS

and the schools that are using up taxpayers' money and "Suck them dry!"

Missing from his characterization of the mayor is what I came to understand as the sweet side of Ford — his actions tormented his family, but he did love them; among Ford Nation he was pretty much a deity.

That's why Ford Nation was so angry that the cops and media were after him. This Hogg has no family, but he does have a side-

kick he calls "Bro," a more sympathetic, though less loyal, character than the real Doug Ford, brother of Rob.

What is not missing from the movie is the crack, and lots of it. The cops do crack. Mayor Hogg does crack. Oh, and the guns.

Agatha Christie once said that her approach to writing mystery stories was to drop in another body when things got dull. I stopped counting at 10 killed, mostly in wild shootouts.

Every time I grew to like a character in the movie, he was killed. That wholesale violence never happened in the Ford story, though two of the



three men Ford was photographed with outside the house where the video was filmed were later shot outside a bar, and one of them died.

In *Filth City* all of the crazy rumours we reporters heard on the chase come to life: The suitcase full of cash in return for the video — in the movie, yes; never happened in real life. Cops on the side of the mayor, working aggressively to find the video to destroy it — unfounded scuttlebutt in the Ford case and, at the end of the day, it was the then-chief Bill Blair who confirmed the video's existence six months after Robyn and I first saw it.

As in real life, the movie's star is the crack video itself. The at-times-fruitless, fraught-with-danger search for the elusive iPhone clip that so many (in Toronto and in the mythical and garbage-ridden *Filth City*) wanted for their own purposes. Some wanted it to bring down a mayor. Some wanted it to make sure a mayor stayed propped up. And some wanted it to make money to get out of town, or to tell the public whom they had elected.

And like mayor Ford, Mayor Hogg had a simple plan.

"I'm gonna work my ass off to be the best goddamn mayor of all time!" Hogg tells a very high Hogg Nation campaign crowd. Apart from the carnage in *Filth City*, it works out a great deal better for this mayor than it did for ours.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Judy Greer says working on *Wilson* made her want to spend more time with people who irritate her. HANDBOUT

NEW RELEASE

Greer roots for Harrelson

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

people who inspire me. I'm pretty happy with the roles I'm getting and I just want to work with more of my idols. I definitely checked that box with Woody (Harrelson).

In the film Greer plays Shelly, a dog sitter who is one of the only people who finds the offbeat title character charming.

"There are a handful of actors who couldn't play this role because you would hate them all the way through to the end. Woody himself is so lovely and wonderful that in the beginning when Wilson is kind of terrible Woody makes you root for him."

"After I saw the movie I found myself wanting to spend more time talking to people who irritate me," she says. "Maybe that person is a Wilson and Wilson is great. I would want to hear Wilson's opinion about things. Maybe I'm shutting people down too quickly. Maybe I need to give people who have strong opinions a little bit more of a minute in my life. Maybe there is something to be learned from them."

The effervescent 41-year-old, who will next be seen in *War for the Planet of the Apes*, laughs when she says, "I felt strongly that (director) Craig (Johnson) would be making a huge mistake by not casting me."

"Sometimes when I read something I fall in love with the character I'm going to play and sometimes I fall in love with the movie itself. In this case I fell in love with the whole movie, the script itself. I had to see this movie pop up for years to come and be so proud that I had a small piece of it. I wanted to do what I could to help Wilson and his story."

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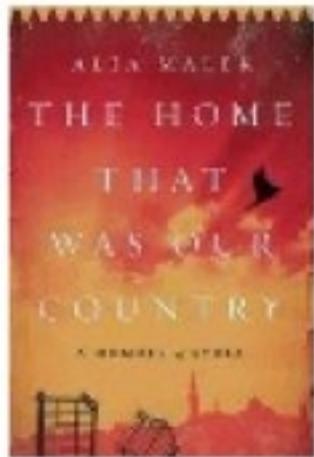
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FOREIGN READS THAT TAKE YOU TO OTHER CULTURES

From the streets of Damascus, and the guerilla frontlines of Central America, to the garment factories of Bangladesh, these notable new works of fiction and non-fiction may take you to countries and cultures that are quite unlike your own.

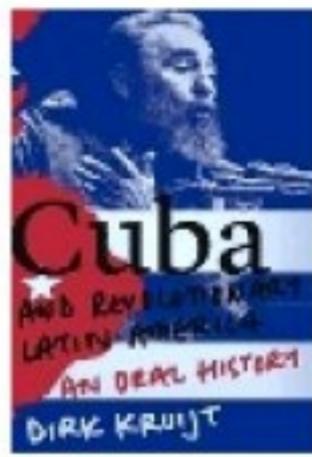
SARAH MURDOCH/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

1 The Home That Was Our Country: A Memoir of Syria



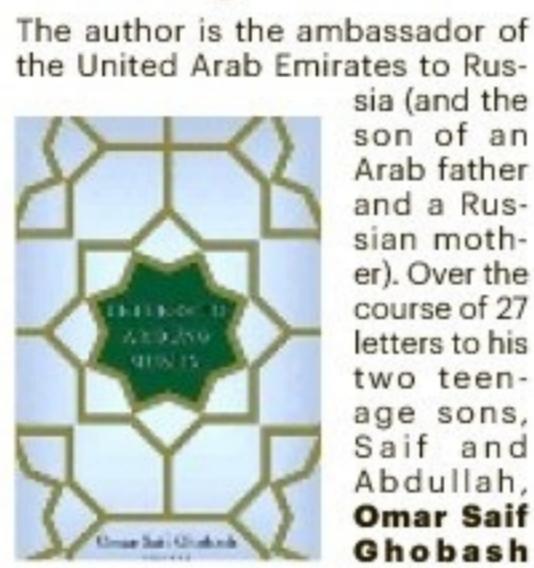
This multi-generational memoir of the author's family serves as a stirring and instructive history of Syria. **Alia Malek**, a journalist and civil-rights lawyer, lived in Damascus, the capital, from 2011 and 2013, where she wrote articles, anonymous and unbylined, for The New York Times and other publications. She also used her time for two important projects: to research the story of her family, and to complete the renovation of Salma's house for Malek's parents in Baltimore.

2 Cuba and Revolutionary Latin America: An Oral History



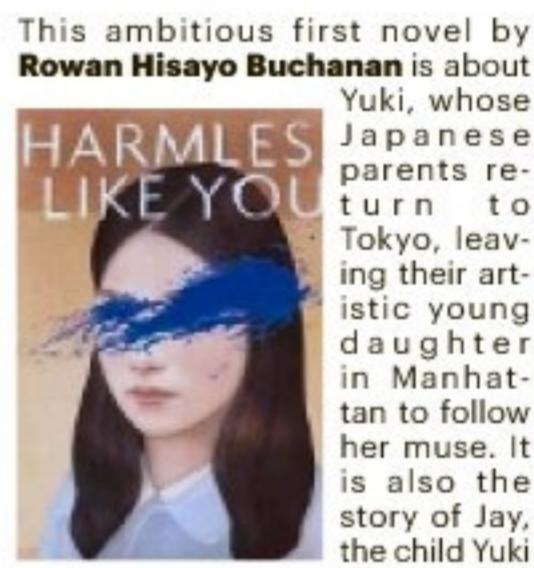
Dirk Kruyt, a professor on guerrilla movements in the Americas, writes in his introduction that he has always been struck by the "intense relationship" between Cuba's revolutionary generation and other leftist-nationalist groups in the region. This new book draws on the stories of 70 or so Cuban interviewees and a further 20 subjects across Central America, most of them now elderly men and women. Their perspectives provide a vivid record of the past.

3 Letters to a Young Muslim



The author is the ambassador of the United Arab Emirates to Russia (and the son of an Arab father and a Russian mother). Over the course of 27 letters to his two teenage sons, Saif and Abdullah, **Omar Saif Ghobash** addresses many of the complex issues facing young Muslims today. He urges them to reject extremist rhetoric in favour of a future that embraces the tenets of Islam while engaging fully in a global society that spans East and West. Letters is recommended for non-Muslim readers keen to better understand Islam.

4 Harmless Like You



This ambitious first novel by **Rowan Hisayo Buchanan** is about Yuki, whose Japanese parents return to Tokyo, leaving their artistic young daughter in Manhattan to follow her muse. It is also the story of Jay, the child Yuki abandons when he is 2. This tale of cultural dislocation and abandonment ranges from New York to Berlin over the past half century. It received a warm critical reception when it was published last summer in the UK. The author describes herself as a Japanese-British-Chinese-American writer.

5 A Harvest of Thorns



The torrential fire in the Bangladesh garment factory that animates **Corban Addison's** new novel is a fictionalized version of the fire at the Tazreen Fashions factory in 2012 that killed at least 117 workers and injured many more. In the Virginia writer's reimagining, an image goes viral of a young garment worker wearing the unmistakable logo of Presto Omnidrugs, the giant U.S. retailer. This sets in motion an adventure thriller in which the author puts a human face on the fashion industry's culpability in allowing cheap clothing to be made under shameful working conditions.

BOOK AWARD

Shaughnessy Cohen Prize finalists named

Books exploring the subjects of race, the justice system and politics, are among the titles vying for the Shaughnessy Cohen Prize for Political Writing.

The finalists for the \$25,000 literary award include Kamal Al-Solaylee for *Brown: What Being Brown in the World*

Today Means (To Everyone). Christie Blatchford was recognized for *Life Sentence: Stories from Four Decades of Court Reporting — Or, How I Fell Out of Love with the Canadian Justice System (Especially Judges)*. James McLeod is a finalist for his book *Turmoil, as Usual:*

Politics in Newfoundland and Labrador and the Road to the 2015 Election.

Ian McKay and Jamie Swift were honoured for *The Vimy Trap: Or, How We Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Great War*. And Noah Richler made the short list for *The*

Candidate: Fear and Loathing on the Campaign Trail.

The award was established in 2000 honour of the late Windsor, Ont., MP Shaughnessy Cohen.

The winner will be announced on May 10.

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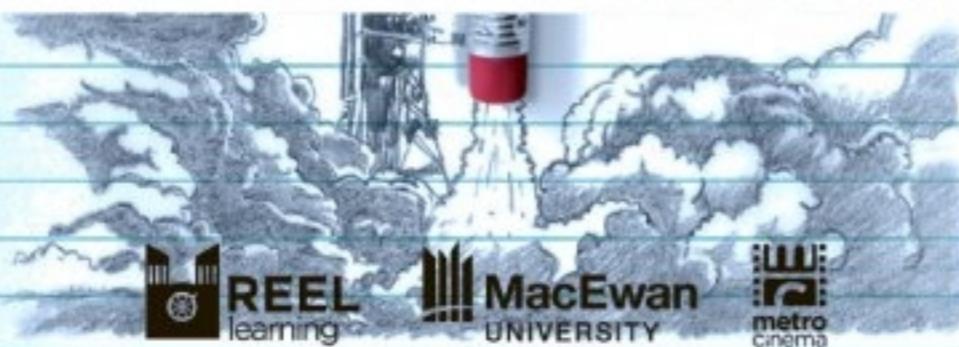
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Updated version of Cloud Atlas goes digital

WEATHER

Sky-watchers celebrate a dozen new classifications



Joe Callaghan
Metro Canada

Clouds can now wander a little less lonely. Good news for sky-watchers didn't rain so much as pour Thursday as World Meteorological Day was marked by the official unveiling of upwards of a dozen 'new' clouds by the world's weather chiefs. That wasn't all.

The spirits of amateur cloudspotters were sent sky high with the release of a new digital edition of the International Cloud Atlas — the classification system for clouds and meteorological phenomena — which had last been updated in 1987.

The atlas dates back to the 19th century but amateur and scientific cloud observers had long been clamoring for an update from the World Meteorological Organization.

"Just like newspapers and everything else, everyone has gone digital right?" laughed Phil Austin, associate professor at the University of British Columbia specializing in cloud physics. "The (Cloud) Atlas has turned out to be quite an important thing to try and reconstruct what clouds looked like in the past. Before there were satellites, there were people watching the sky."

Now all sky-watchers can access the digital Atlas. "It's decades in the making. It's great to see that it's in digital format now so the public can see it," said David Sills, a meteorologist with Environment and Climate Change Canada based in King City, Ont.

Here are some of the key cloud changes that have swept in.

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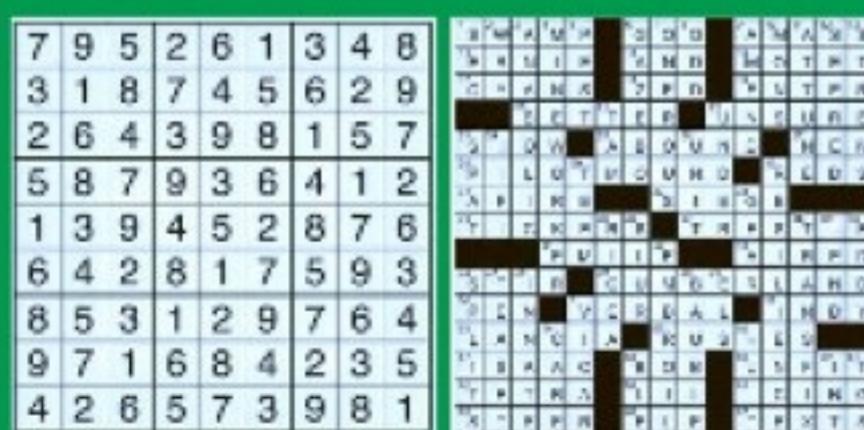
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Asperitas's moment in the sun

After much campaigning from citizen cloudspotters, asperitas was recognized as a new cloud, the atlas describing it "as if viewing a roughened sea surface" from below. "Probably everyone has noticed these once in a while," said Sills. "We see them here in Southern Ontario six or seven times a year. It's quiet dramatic, you'll see social media light up with pictures, especially if it's at sunrise or sunset. People want to know if it's dangerous. This is a classification that allows us to say, 'no it's not dangerous. It has a name and here it is.'"



Volutus comes in from the storm

A whole new species, volutus was quite literally a slow roller. "Sometimes you get a thunderstorm and it produces this gust of cold air that moves out from under it," explains Sills. "Hence that leading edge keeps moving and moving, especially if it's near sunset, it can keep moving overnight."

Citizen observers matter

Those nice Instagram snaps you take, like this cavum in Hong Kong? They matter.

"Glaciologists trying to track where glaciers are receding have gone on to Flickr and are harvesting upwards of 500,000 to a million photos of glaciers that people have uploaded and used those to track glaciers," explains Austin. "You could imagine similar with clouds."



Go catch 'em all

"There's a whole nephology community out there with your typical cloud nerds who have all the names memorized," said Sills, (this one is a fluctus). "It's something fun for everyone. And now more people can get involved."

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Line-free parks worth the wait

AMUSEMENT

Theme-parks seeking ways to eliminate long tedious lineups

At Universal Orlando Resort's new Race Through New York Starring Jimmy Fallon ride, waiting in line has been replaced by lounging on couches and listening to a racy barber shop quartet sing until it's time to enter the ride.

Universal is leading the theme-park charge into "virtual lines" that give visitors options for exploring a park or watching live entertainment instead of the tedium of looking at someone's back as you inch forward step by step to the thrill ride.

"It's kind of a bit of a science experiment for all of us," said Jason Surrell, a Universal creative director said about the "queue-less" waits. "We've known for years that waiting in line is one of the biggest dis-satisfiers in our guests' day."

Universal is also trying the concept at another attraction. Later this year, when Universal opens its new Volcano Bay water park in Orlando, visitors will be given wristbands that will alert them when it's their turn to get on a ride.

"I think it represents the future of what we're going to be doing in themed entertainment," Surrell said. "I kind of



With the opening of Race through New York, Universal is leading the theme-park charge into "virtual lines." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

joke that this is the first step on a journey that will eventually lead us to a generation that doesn't even know about theme park lines. It will be 'What do you mean, wait in a queue? What's that, Grandpa?'

Virtual lines are the latest evolution in theme parks' efforts to shorten or eliminate waits for rides, or if waits are necessary evils, to improve the experience of biding one's time.

Almost two decades ago, those efforts were concentrated on elaborately-designed "pre-ride" lines such Univer-

sal's The Amazing Adventures of Spider-Man, which goes past an elaborately-detailed Daily Bugle newsroom.

A few years later came the ride reservations systems of the FastPass and Express Pass at Disney and Universal parks, respectively, in which ride-goers are assigned periods of time to show up for rides. But those reservations need to be made ahead of time, for the most part, and visitors can only make them on three rides a day.

Universal opens that concept to everybody, not just advanced

planners, with its two new attractions, while also offering entertainment during the wait.

"Everybody is trying to do this, working not only on the rides but how to get you on the rides," said Dennis Speigel, who heads the theme park consulting firm, International Theme Park Services. "Universal is at the forefront right now."

The Jimmy Fallon attraction and the Volcano Bay water park take different approaches to virtual lines.

At the Jimmy Fallon attraction, which opens next month,

visitors enter an area made to look like the lobby of a Rockefeller Center building. Instead of getting in line, they can meander through the lobby looking at photos and memorabilia of past and present Tonight Show hosts and watch TVs playing clips of hosts Steve Allen, Jack Paar, Johnny Carson, Jay Leno and Jimmy Fallon. Up a flight of stairs are a lounge with couches, half a dozen consoles with touch screens displaying Tonight Show videos and a theatre stage. Visitors can hang out in the lounge area, charging their

phones or talking while they wait. They can dance or take photos with an actor in the costume of Hashtag the Panda, a staple character from Jimmy Fallon's show or listen to a performance from The Ragtime Gals, an incarnation of the barber shop quartet which is also a staple of the TV show.

When they enter the building, visitors are given a card with one of the colours in the NBC peacock logo. When it's their turn to go on the ride, lights in the waiting area will flash their colour and the singers will announce the colour. If they don't want to wait in the building, they can return at a designated time.

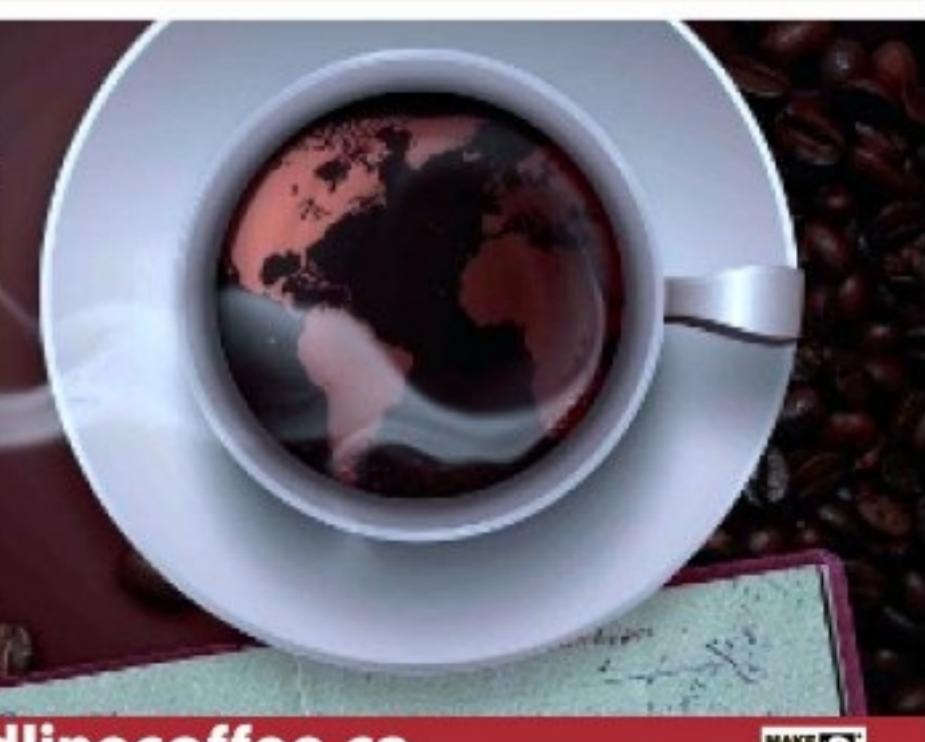
Universal hasn't released many details about how virtual lines will work at Volcano Bay, other than to say a watch-like device named TapuTapu will be given to visitors. It will flash "Ride Now" when it's their time to go on a ride.

Technology and our growing impatience with waiting are driving the move toward virtual lines, Speigel said.

The proliferation of cellphone apps, along with the development of wristbands that emit radio signals, pioneered by Disney and able to track movement, made the virtual lines technically possible. America's growing impatience with waiting, from speed dating to Amazon Prime's two-hour deliveries makes it culturally imperative.

"Nobody wants to stand in line. We want to be first," Speigel said. "It's just the way society is evolving."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



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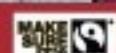


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THINGS TO SEE IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

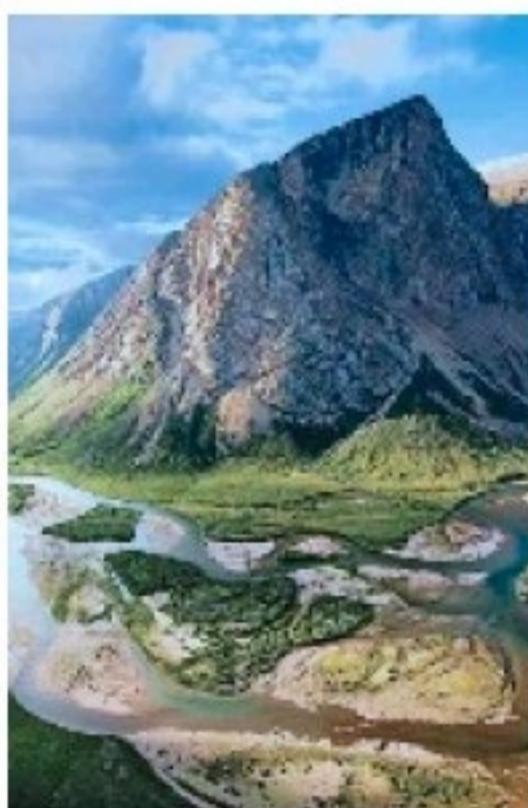
People have been exploring Newfoundland and Labrador for around 10,000 years, starting with the earliest hunters and gatherers, the Paleo-Indians. Vikings were the first Europeans to arrive, followed by adventurers from England, Portugal, France and Spain. Today, visitors come from around the world to discover the scenery, sample the culinary offerings and take in the wealth of cultural experiences. Here are 10 things to see and do in the province known as The Rock.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



1 Cultural centerpiece

The brand new Illusuak Cultural Centre will celebrate Labrador Inuit culture, language, traditions, stories and experiences when it opens this summer in Nain, Nunatsiavut's largest and most northern community and the gateway to Torngat Mountains National Park.



2 Torngat Mountains National Park

For centuries, Torngat Mountains National Park's fjords, valleys and towering peaks have drawn Inuit hunters and fishermen. Home to seals, whales, wolves, foxes, eagles, caribou, muskoxen and polar and black bears, it also attracts hikers and kayakers on wilderness camping excursions.



3 Whale watching

Twenty-two species of whales, from minke to orca to humpback, frolic along these shores from May to September. You can see them, and even small harbour porpoises, from tour boats and sea kayaks, and even just by walking along the beaches and coastal trails.

NOT A TOURIST | A letter from Mark Stachiew

Tracing Newfoundland's Viking settlers



A sod longhouse at L'Anse aux Meadows shows how Vikings would have lived a thousand years ago. MARK STACHIEW/FOR METRO

After visiting the only known Viking settlement in North America, we learned to appreciate the struggles that the New World's first immigrants faced a thousand years ago just to find this place and then to survive in its harsh environment.

We hiked out into the low, scrubby landscape at L'Anse aux Meadows, N.L. to visit the remnants of their seaside settlement, but were under-

whelmed to see that it was not much more than a small collection of grassy mounds. That disappointment vanished quickly as our Parks Canada guide brought the story of those mounds to life. He explained how the Vikings smelted iron from the bogs to make nails to repair their ships and struggled to survive at that spot for several years until they eventually abandoned it.

Adjacent to the actual na-

tional historic site, is a sod longhouse, peopled with costumed re-enactors who demonstrated how the Vikings lived, giving sense to what life might have been like there a millennium ago.

Not far away from L'Anse aux Meadows is Norstead where we got to visit a larger recreation of a Viking settlement. It's not affiliated with Parks Canada, but it had a larger collection of sod houses

with more Viking re-enactors. Its most impressive attraction was the Snorri, a replica of a Viking ship that was sailed to Norstead from Greenland to mark the 1,000th anniversary of Leif Erikson's voyage, giving us an even greater appreciation of the dangers the Vikings took to leave their homes in search of a better life elsewhere and reminding us that immigrants to this land are still taking risks to get here.

4 Cultural events

The Newfoundland and Labrador Folk Festival in St. John's is designated as a fully accessible cultural event. The lively weekend of traditional music and interactive workshops, with open jam sessions, dance lessons and arts and crafts, draw musicians and an audience that spans generations. This year's even runs Aug. 4-6.

If literature floats your boat, writers at Woody Point brings writers, musicians and artisans together to inspire visitors amid the outdoor setting of Gros Morne National Park and in historic and intimate venues in the town of Woody Point. This year's festival runs Aug. 15-20.



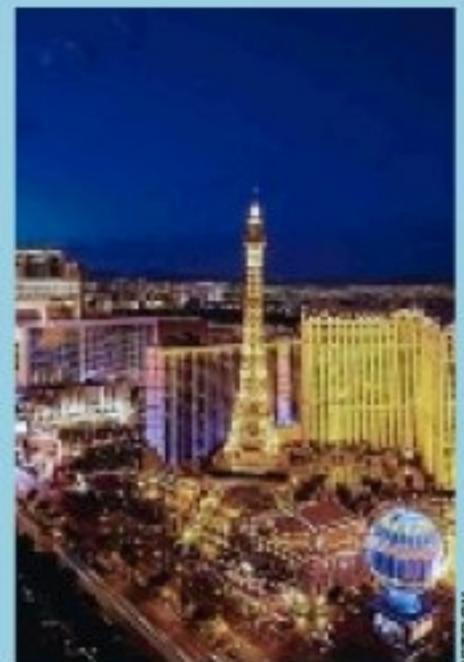
5 The Screech Room

You can buy Newfoundland Screech Rum all over the world but only here can we become honorary Newfoundlanders via a "Screech-In." St. John's is the only place with a 1850s-style Screech Room (in the Masonic Temple) where Screech-inspired food, beverage, accessories and activities are righteously feted.

TRAVEL NOTES LAS VEGAS TRANSIT, AN ARTIST'S DRESS, ROLLING STONE CELEBRATES 50 YEARS

Las Vegas light rail

State and local government have presented a legislative plan laying the groundwork to build a multi-billion-dollar light rail system to link McCarran International Airport with the Las Vegas Strip. The proposal heard in the Senate Transportation Committee would give local officials new authority to seek tax hikes or federal grants to finance an expanded portfolio of major transportation developments. But they need state permission to fund or implement any plans. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Georgia O'Keeffe's closet on display**

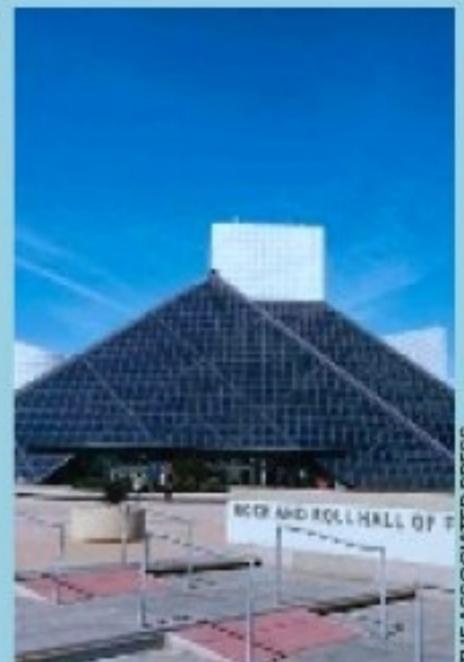
A New York City museum is highlighting Georgia O'Keeffe's role as a style icon. The Brooklyn Museum exhibit Georgia O'Keeffe: Living Modern features clothing, paintings and photos.

Guest curator Wanda M. Corn studied six decades worth of O'Keeffe's garments and accessories. Co-ordinator Lisa Small says O'Keeffe's distinctive clothing style symbolized her life-long commitment to minimalism. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Rock 'n' Rolling Stone**

The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame will celebrate 50 years of Rolling Stone magazine in an exhibit set to open this spring in Cleveland.

The Rock Hall says the exhibit will explore the magazine's archive of award-winning music, political and cultural reporting. It will open in conjunction with the release of the book, 50 Years of Rolling Stone. The exhibit will include rarely heard stories, original manuscripts, music reviews and audio interviews.



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Getting schooled at a N.B. aquarium

SHIPPAGAN

Focus on local aquatic life rather than tropical species

Have you touched a blue lobster lately? That's a question for visitors as they enter the New Brunswick Aquarium and Marine Centre in Shippagan, N.B.

Located on the northeast shore of the province, the aquarium is now in its 35th year, offering visitors a better understanding of aquatic life in Eastern Canada and the fishing industry.

"Visitors have the opportunity to witness our natural heritage here. It's our livelihood here in northern New Brunswick," said Laurent Robichaud, co-ordinator of development and promotion for the centre. Situated on the waterfront in Shippagan, the centre features a scenic view, a lighthouse built more than a century ago and an outdoor tank with seals ready to amuse.

"People have an opportunity to see them being fed twice a day.



Atlantic Sturgeon at the Shippagan Aquarium. Top right: A jellyfish tank in Shippagan. Bottom: A rare albino Atlantic Lobster at the bottom of an indoor tank. THE CANADIAN PRESS

They get to see how smart they are, how fast they are, and the interpreters explain the biology of these amazing animals also," Robichaud said.

Inside, 31 large and colourful tanks can be seen as you wind your way through the aquarium's

corridors. Many of the displays include interactive elements.

"We usually have about 100 species, or about 3,000 fish and invertebrates at all times," Robichaud said. A large tank in the lobby displays coloured lobsters, ranging from blue to orange to

polka-dotted, and some with one colour on one side and a different colour on the other side.

"We even have a lobster that has both sexes. I'm not sure how rare that is, but it's certainly more than one in every four to five million lobsters is blue.

Blue lobsters tend to be the most popular among the 34,000 people who visit every year, he said. Only about one in every four to five million lobsters is blue. Unlike some aquariums that display exotic bright and colourful tropical fish, the centre in

Shippagan highlights aquatic life that can be found in the waters of Eastern Canada. You'll see large sturgeon, eels, crabs, starfish and many more and get a chance to learn how they live in the wild. Visitors will also learn that the waters are home to different whales, sharks and even leatherback turtles.

Education and research are important components of the facility, which is visited by about 2,500 school children each year. Most come from New Brunswick, but there are also classes from Quebec and the state of Maine who make the trip. Much of the curriculum is geared towards children in grades 3 to 5.

The province's largest commercial fleet operates from wharfs just a short distance away.

The aquarium is owned and operated by the province of New Brunswick. It is open to the public between June and the end of September each year.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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TOP 150 FOR 150

CELEBRATING CANADA'S GIFTS TO THE WORLD

Canada's flag: Leaf it to us

Sean Plummer

Though Canada turns 150 this year, our flag is a lot younger. The symbol of our nation — with its red 11-point maple leaf on a white background, flanked by fields of red — wasn't unveiled until 1965.

Before that, the search for the right flag to represent Canada had gone on for decades. Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King first established a committee to study the issue in 1925 but was shut down



by, among others, people loyal to the Union Jack.

Another parliamentary flag committee formed by King in 1945 likewise went nowhere. It wasn't until 1963 that new prime minister Lester B. Pearson promised Canadians that they would have a flag within two years. Officials from across Canada combed through the various ideas, including thousands of designs submitted by the public.

Suggestions included such Canadian perennials as the beaver and the fleur-de-lis, as well as lions and stars. The iconic maple leaf was unanimously adopted in December 1964, with the first flag unfurled on Parliament Hill two months later.



Though Canada is turning 150, our flag wasn't unveiled until 1965. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Today's IMAX, short for image maximum, evolved from Expo 67 in Montreal. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

To the max

"Bigger is better" sounds American, but it's the ethos of one of Canada's most amazing inventions: IMAX.

Short for "image maximum," the famous film format, which projects an image eight-stories tall, evolved from a gimmick at Expo 67 in Montreal. Today it's a way for Hollywood to make

movies majestic again — think the jaw-dropping moviescapes of *The Dark Knight*, *Star Trek* and *The Avengers*. And speaking of jaw-dropping, the Toronto-based company's latest venture is a virtual-reality arcade launched in L.A. this past January.

SEAN PLUMMER

Poutine all day long

Ah, sweet poutine. Believed to have originated in rural Quebec in the 1950s, the tasty combo of fries, cheese curds and gravy has grown from being a staple of greasy spoons, ski resorts and hockey arenas into a gourmet dish that can sustain numerous poutine-only restaurants. Regional variations abound, such as butter-chicken poutine in Vancouver and poutine with dressing in Newfoundland. However you like it, you're enjoying a gooey scoop of Canada.

SEAN PLUMMER



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EXPRESS**



Alex Ovechkin celebrated the Capitals' Russian Heritage Night with skates bearing Moscow's St. Basil's Cathedral and the U.S. Capitol during warmups

Canadian teen Stroll at starting line of F1 career

MOTORSPORTS

18-year-old from Montreal debuting with Williams

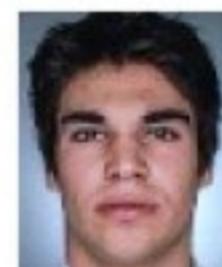
It is rare to realize a life's dream at an early age, but you could see it coming for Formula One racing rookie Lance Stroll.

The 18-year-old, who was named as a driver for the Williams F1 team in

November, will make his debut in motor racing's top series this weekend at the Australian Grand Prix.

He will be the second-youngest to race in F1 after Max Verstappen, who began at 17 for Toro Rosso in 2015 before being promoted to the Red Bull team and winning the Spanish Grand Prix last summer.

Stroll landed the Williams ride after he became the youngest champion of the European Formula 3 series last year, winning 14 of



Lance Stroll

GETTY IMAGES

30 races.

"I've progressed a lot and I think I've reached a level of driving that I was aiming for," Stroll said after winning the title. "But there is still a lot to learn because you always need to adapt to a higher level."

Of course, he also had the benefit of financial help from his billionaire father Lawrence Stroll, a diehard racing and Ferrari fan who has not

hesitated to dip into his vast resources to help his son reach his goals.

Some reports estimated that Lawrence Stroll, who made his fortune in the fashion industry, spent at least \$40 million US to get his son a seat in F1.

Lance Stroll acknowledges that the money helped, but he still had to prove himself on the track.

"For sure it's important to have sponsorships in F1 because, as we've seen, there have been good drivers who didn't make it because they didn't have solid backing," Stroll said in a recent interview. "It shouldn't be like that but it is, so it's good to have support."

Money can't buy talent, but that's not a problem for Stroll.

Vince Loughran, who runs the Mont-Tremblant track north of Montreal owned by Stroll's

He can't rely only on his talent. He has to keep working to improve.

Mentor Hugo Mousseau

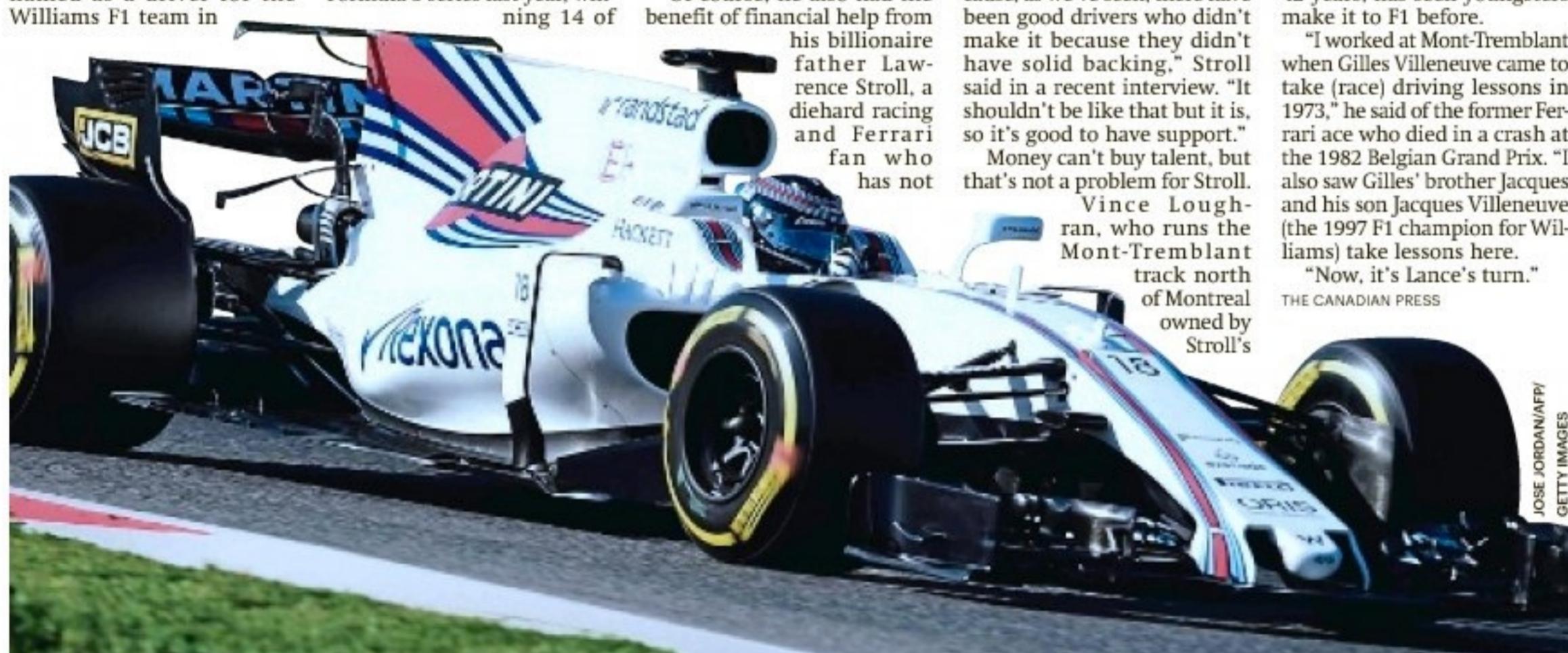
father, said the young driver was impressive from the outset. And Loughran, who has worked in motor racing for more than 42 years, has seen youngsters make it to F1 before.

"I worked at Mont-Tremblant when Gilles Villeneuve came to take (race) driving lessons in 1973," he said of the former Ferrari ace who died in a crash at the 1982 Belgian Grand Prix. "I also saw Gilles' brother Jacques and his son Jacques Villeneuve (the 1997 F1 champion for Williams) take lessons here."

"Now, it's Lance's turn."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

JOSE JORDAN/AFP
GETTY IMAGES



MARCH MADNESS

Ducks return to Elite Eight

Tyler Dorsey scored 20 points and made the go-ahead layup with 1:08 left, and third-seeded Oregon ended No. 7 Michigan's dramatic post-season run with a 69-68 victory in a Midwest Regional semifinal on Thursday night in Kansas City.

Dorsey, the man the Ducks (32-5) call "Mr. March," had his sixth straight game scoring 20 or more points.

The Wolverines (27-11) had one more chance to extend their run after Dylan Ennis missed a free throw with 15 seconds left. But Derrick Wal-

ton, who had carried the Wolverines the last three weeks, was off with his long jumper just before the buzzer.

Canadians Dillon Brooks (Mississauga, Ont.), the Pac-12 player of the year, added 12 points and Ennis (Brampton, Ont.) had 10.

The Ducks set the school record with their 32nd win and are off to the Elite Eight for the second straight year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Tyler Dorsey scored 20 points as Oregon edged Michigan on Thursday night.

JAMIE SQUIRE/GETTY IMAGES

Go to metronews.ca for additional coverage of the NCAA Tournament

IN BRIEF

Predators hand Flames their second straight loss

Pekka Rinne made 24 saves to lead the Nashville Predators over the Calgary Flames 3-1 on Thursday night.

Calle Jarnkrok, Colton Sissons and Ryan Ellis scored, and Colin Wilson had two assists for Nashville, which has won five of six.

Dougie Hamilton had the lone goal for Calgary. After winning 17 of 21, the Flames have lost two straight. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



NHL OILERS FINISH WITH A FLURRY Oilers left-winger Patrick Maroon, centre, vies for the puck against Avalanche players Tyson Barrie, left, and Carl Soderberg on Thursday night in Denver. Edmonton scored five unanswered third-period goals to win 7-4. DAVID ZALUBOWSKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PYEONGCHANG 2018 Decision could be players'

Alex Ovechkin has pledged to attend the 2018 Olympics in South Korea whether the NHL opts to go or not, and the Russian superstar might not be alone.

Donald Fehr, the executive director of the NHL Players' Association, said the possibility of players choosing to compete in Pyeongchang even if the NHL decides against interrupting the 2017-18 season "would be the next issue which arises."

"I'm not sure we take the view that that's a league decision anyway," Fehr said by phone on Thursday afternoon. "It's very probably an individual club decision."

The NHL declined to comment on the matter when reached Thursday, but it's not difficult to envision the headache it would cause for the league if players, beyond just Ovechkin, opted to attend next February while the NHL regular season continued to take place. The distraction alone would be enormous.

Both Fehr and the players don't want it to get to that point though. They're hoping for a resolution from the NHL which allows the group to attend a sixth consecutive Games.

"They know we think it's important," Fehr said. "They know that we believe very strongly that players ought to have an opportunity to play. They know we think it's in the long-run good for the game. And it's something that we ought to try and do."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Round-robin perfection

CURLING

Canada takes 11-0 record into playoffs at worlds

Canada skip Rachel Homan tuned up for the playoffs in style Thursday by beating Italy and Denmark to remain unbeaten at the world women's curling championship.

Homan and her team of third Emma Miskew, second Joanne Courtney and lead Lisa Weagle closed out round-robin play with a perfect 11-0 record. As the top seed, the Ottawa-based team will open with the hammer in the Page playoff 1-2 game against

Russia's Anna Sidorova on Friday night.

The 1-2 winner will advance to Sunday's gold-medal game and the loser will fall into Saturday's semifinal. Canada is trying to win gold for the first time since 2008.

"You can go undefeated in the round-robin and not win a medal, so it's not like it's in the bag," said Miskew. "We still have two or potentially three tough teams to play. We're prepared to have to play the semi, but it would be great to come out tomorrow and have a good game



Rachel Homan
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

to get to the final.

"But it's all business for us. We're just trying to stay patient out there, not get caught up in anything and just play our game."

Homan had already secured the first seed entering her morning game against Italy's Diana Gaspari at the Capital Gymnasium. Canada scored three in the fourth end and a deuce in the eighth for an 8-5 victory.

In the afternoon, Denmark's Lene Nielsen had a 4-3 lead after seven ends but Homan moved ahead with an open hit for three points in the eighth. She iced the 8-4 win with a steal of two in the ninth.

It's Homan's third appearance at this event. She won bronze in 2013 in Riga, Latvia, and took silver the next year in Saint

John, N.B.

When it comes down to it anything can happen.

Rachel Homan

Sidorova (8-3) wrapped up the second seed with a 6-4 victory over China's Bingyu Wang.

Sweden's Anna Hasselborg (8-3) will play Scotland's Eve Muirhead (7-4) in the Page playoff 3-4 game on Saturday afternoon.

The 3-4 winner will advance to the semifinal while the loser will play for bronze Sunday against the semifinal loser. The semifinal winner plays the 1-2 game winner for gold. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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IN BRIEF

USA Hockey considering replacement players

USA Hockey is beginning to reach out to potential replacement players in case the women's national team boycotts the upcoming world championships over an ongoing wage dispute.

The organization said in a statement sent to The Associated Press on Thursday night that it's still prioritizing having the original team on the ice.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

announced that jerseys worn by Brady during this year's Super Bowl and the 2015 Super Bowl were returned to Gillette Stadium Thursday.

Mexican authorities searched the property of tabloid journalist Martin Mauricio Ortega, where they found the jerseys.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DeRozan does 40 again

DeMar DeRozan scored 40 points, marking the first time he's had that many in consecutive games, and the Toronto Raptors pulled off their 19th double-digit comeback of the season to beat the Miami Heat 101-84 on Thursday night.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MAKE IT TONIGHT

Delicious Blueberry Grunt



Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

This old-fashioned dessert boasts a warm, soup-y base and biscuit-y topping and only gets better when topped with vanilla ice cream.

Ready in 30 minutes

Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 20 minutes
Serves: 6

Ingredients

- 4 cups blueberries
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup water
- 2 Tbsp fresh lemon juice
- 2 tsp lemon zest
- 2 cups spelt flour
- 4 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- pinch of allspice
- 1/4 cup butter
- 1 1/4 cups milk, more if necessary

Directions

1. In a 9-inch, deep skillet, mix blueberries, sugar, water, lemon juice and zest. Bring berry mixture to a boil then reduce to a simmer.
2. Meanwhile, sift flour, baking powder, sugar, salt and allspice into a bowl. Using a pastry cutter, cut in butter until in coarse crumbs. Mix in the milk using a fork until the dough comes together. (Add milk if the dough is too dry)
3. As the blueberries simmer, drop heaping tablespoons of the dough into the berries. Cover with a lid or tinfoil and allow dumplings to cook, about 12 to 15 minutes.
4. Serve warm with vanilla ice cream.

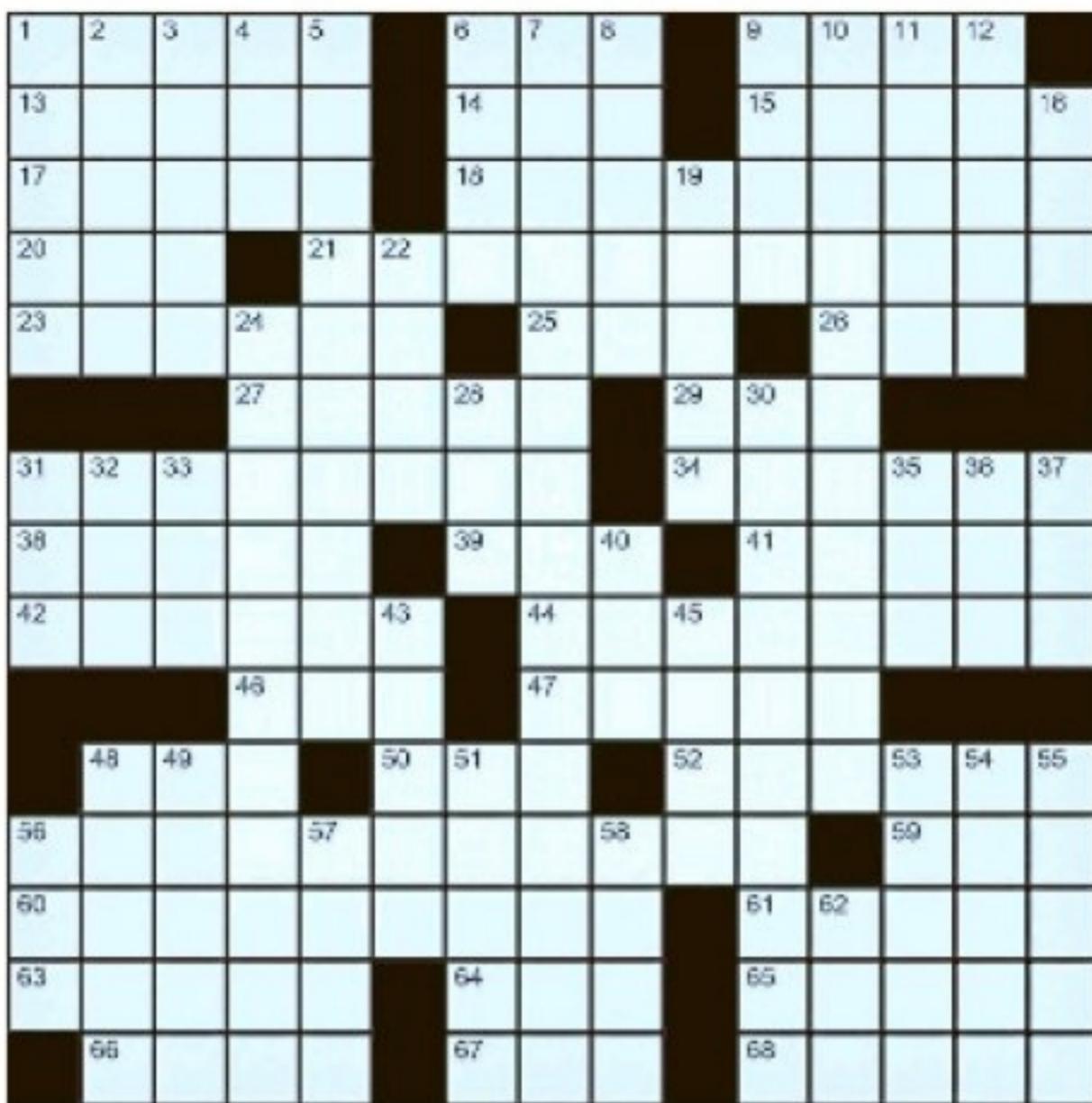
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

1. Commemorated celebration, curty
6. Canadian cinematic org.
9. Finish in __ (Draw)
13. Nintendo video brother
14. Grand __ Opry
15. Actor Lorenzo
17. T.O. footballers
18. Save a particular attraction for the end of the trip: 2 wds.
20. Quebec 'Mrs.'
21. Suited to a person's preferences or strengths: 3 wds.
23. Spain: Guggenheim Museum locale
25. Complete amount, briefly
26. Previous
27. Suffix denoting 'pain'
29. Bambi's aunt
31. Judd Hirsch sitcom: 2 wds.
34. William Shatner's sci-fi novels/TV/comics/games franchise
38. Prefix to 'hydrates'
39. Fruit drink
41. Quebec 'pen'
42. Stream sorts
44. Newfoundland town north of St. John's
46. Speedwagon's lead-in
47. "Anything Could Happen" by __ Goulding
48. __ in Niagara
50. Spy org.
52. Artificial/bogus
56. When a Cadillac, for instance, turns pink



from white, it has undergone one: 3 wds.

"__ With You"
64. __ Lingus (Ireland's flyer)
59. __ rally
60. Canadian supermodel who is the Brand Director at the Nomad agency: 2 wds.

DOWN
1. Gentle as __
2. 'The Flying Finn', Paavo __ (b.1897 - d.1973)
3. Mr. Lythgoe
4. Whitesnake's "Here __ Again"
5. Sight gag: 2 wds.
6. De __ (Again,

in Latin)
7. Poetry collection published in 1912 of celebrated Mohawk/English performer E. Pauline Johnson (b.1861 - d.1913); 3 wds.
8. Hassle
9. Airdrie's prov.
10. Gordon Lightfoot's

"The Way I Feel" bit: "Like a __ alone and crying" (More at #30-Down)
11. __ done!"
12. Allied
16. Farm area
19. Small island
22. Corn dog
24. Striped twirler outside a haircut venue: 2 wds.
28. James of Smashing Pumpkins

30. Verse following the one at #10-Down... "When the birds have flown and the __ __"
31. Caesar's 700
32. Hearer
33. 'Hect' add-on
35. Colo. neighbour
36. Saloon's stock, shortly
37. Seoul's locale [acronym]
40. Annex
43. __-economic status
45. Dog food brand
48. Ms. Watts
49. Bowed
51. Andes people, once
53. Overture
54. Crowded
55. Selected
56. Nero's 201
57. Mr. Johnson
58. Smucker's containers
62. __ Tin Tin

*IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
You feel upbeat, confident and happy today. This is wonderful. Just be careful that you do not promise more than you can deliver.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Without question, this is a feel-good day! Enjoy your interactions with others, especially co-workers.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
You will enjoy talking to younger people today, especially in groups. You will encourage people to think big and embrace ambitious goals.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
This is a good day to discuss business matters, including those regarding shared property and debt. Do not be overly optimistic; stay in the realm of reality and common sense.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Conversations with parents and bosses will be uplifting today. Just make sure that you don't bite off more than you can chew.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
It's OK to have your head in the clouds, as long as you keep your feet on the ground. Travel plans look thrilling. Discussions about philosophy, politics and religion will be exciting and stimulating.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
This is a great day to schmooze with others, because you will attract people who have a youthful, upbeat attitude. Enjoy fun discussions with everyone!

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You are eager to make big plans at work. Quite possibly, these plans involve travel. Whatever the case, your interactions with co-workers will be friendly and positive.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
This is a great day for sports events, the arts and playful excursions. Fun activities with children will delight. It's also a great date day. Enjoy yourself!

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Family discussions will be positive and ambitious today, because you are entertaining big plans.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Because you are in such a positive, winning state of mind, all your communications with others will be successful. This means you are good to go if you sell, market, teach, write or act.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
You have ambitious moneymaking ideas today. Just make sure that your plans are doable, because it's easy to go overboard with one's expectations today. Remain realistic.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

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	6	7		9	
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9		2	4		5
	2			6	
6		7	9		1
	8	9		4	5
	7		1	3	
3		5	8		7

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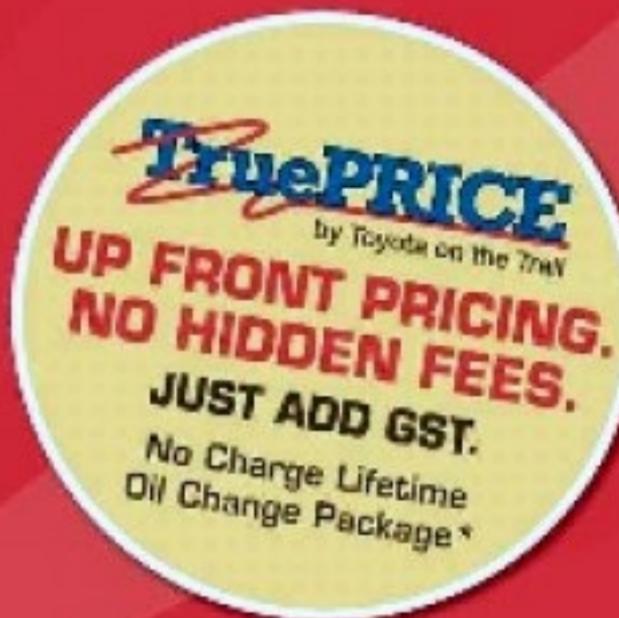
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RAV4 PAYMENTS ARE 60 MONTHS @ 1.49% APR DAC, EXAMPLE 1H366697 @ \$170 BIWEEKLY = CCB \$8,190. COROLLA PAYMENTS ARE 60 MONTHS @ 1.49% APR DAC, EXAMPLE #H708586 @ \$119 BW WEEKLY = CCB \$1,090. SALE PRICES NET OF MANUFACTURER'S INCENTIVES. SALE PRICES INCLUDE ALL FEES, LEVIES AND TAXES EXCEPT GST. PAYMENTS INCLUDE GST. VEHICLES MAY NOT BE EXACTLY AS SHOWN. OFFER ENDS MARCH 31ST, 2017.